EXHIBIT A

Court Case Pleadings in Civil Action No. 19-CVS-17434

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC vs NTE Carolina II LLC, NTE Carolinas II Holdings LLC, NTE Energy LLC, Kristi S. Miller and Michael C. Green STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG

2019 SEP -6 P 12: 23 19-CVS-17434

DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC MECKLENBURG CO., C.S.C.

Plaintiff.

COMPLAINT

v.

NTE CAROLINAS II LLC, NTE CAROLINAS II HOLDINGS LLC, NTE ENERGY LLC, KRISTI S. MILLER, in her individual capacity, and MICHAEL C. GREEN, in his individual capacity,

Defendants.

Plaintiff DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC ("Duke Energy" or "Plaintiff"), complaining of Defendants NTE CAROLINAS II LLC ("NTE"), NTE CAROLINAS II HOLDINGS LLC ("NTE Holdings"), and NTE ENERGY LLC ("NTE Energy"), KRISTI S. MILLER ("Ms. Miller"), and MICHAEL C. GREEN ("Mr. Green" and collectively with NTE, NTE Holdings, NTE Energy, and Ms. Miller, "Defendants"), alleges as follows:

The Parties

- 1. Duke Energy is a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of North Carolina with its principal place of business at 526 South Church Street, Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.
- 2. NTE is a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of Delaware with its principal place of business at 24 Cathedral Place, Suite 300, Saint Augustine, Florida 32084-4428.
- 3. Upon information and belief, NTE Holdings is a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of Delaware with its principal place of business at 24 Cathedral Place, Suite 300, Saint Augustine, Florida 32084-4428.
- 4. NTE Energy is a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of Florida with its principal place of business at 24 Cathedral Place, Suite 300, Saint Augustine, Florida 32084-4428. NTE Energy has an office at 201 South College Street, Suite 2710, Charlotte, North Carolina, 28244.
- 5. Upon information and belief, Ms. Miller is an individual residing in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. At all times relevant to the allegations in the complaint, Ms. Miller was the Director of Commercial Origination of NTE Energy

6. Upon information and belief, Mr. Green is an individual residing in Volusia County, Florida. At all times relevant to the allegations in the complaint, Mr. Green was the Senior Vice President, Development – Carolinas of NTE Energy.

Jurisdiction

- 7. Duke Energy seeks damages in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) for its claims against Defendants.
- 8. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §7A-243, "[t]he Superior Court Division is the proper division for the trial of all civil actions in which the amount in controversy exceeds twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000)."
- 9. At the time of Defendants' filing of a responsive pleading, Defendants have been properly served with the Summons and Complaint.
- 10. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants by virtue of, *inter alia*, N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 1-75.4(1) and (5). Each Defendant is either an entity that conducts business or maintains operations in North Carolina or is an individual who has sufficient minimum contacts with North Carolina so as to render the exercise of jurisdiction by the courts of North Carolina permissible.
- 11. The Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina has subject matter jurisdiction over the parties and subject matter jurisdiction over the action.
- 12. Venue is proper in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 1-79 and § 1-80.

Factual Background

- 13. On July 29, 2016, NTE filed an application with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (the "Commission") for a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing the construction and operation of an approximately 500-megawatt (MW) natural gas-fueled generating facility in Rockingham County, North Carolina, to be known as the Reidsville Energy Center ("Reidsville Energy Center"). See Order Granting Certificate with Conditions, attached as Exhibit 1.
- 14. NTE represented to the Commission that it was a wholly-owned first-tier subsidiary of NTE Holdings, which was an affiliate of NTE Energy.
- 15. The Commission issued a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to NTE for the Reidsville Energy Center on January 19, 2017.
 - 16. NTE Energy's website describes the Reidsville Energy Center project as follows:

REIDSVILLE ENERGY CENTER

NTE Energy is developing and plans to construct, own and operate the Reidsville Energy Center, an approximately 500 MW natural gas electric generating facility in Rockingham County, North Carolina. The Reidsville Energy Center will be one of the cleanest and most efficient sources of capacity and energy in the Carolinas. Once complete, the facility will be capable of powering approximately 450,000 homes and represent and investment of over \$500 million, providing numerous benefits to the surrounding communities and their economies.

https://www.reidsvilleenergy.com/#project-overview (last visited September 4, 2019).

17. NTE Energy's website includes information about the milestones the Reidsville Energy Center had achieved and its anticipated project milestones:

ACHIEVED PROJECT MILESTONES:

Site Secured: October 13, 2015

Interconnection Request: March 3, 2016

Air Permit Application: April 15, 2016

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Application: July 29, 2018

Received Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity: January 19, 2017

Received Air Quality Permit: July 14, 2017

ANTICIPATED PROJECT MILESTONES:

Start Construction: 2020

Commercial Operation Date: 2022

https://www.reidsvilleenergy.com/#project-overview (last visited September 4, 2019).

18. NTE has no separate website from NTE Energy.

The Large Generator Interconnection Agreement

- 19. In order to provide the power produced by the Reidsville Energy Center to customers, NTE needs to connect to Duke's transmission lines.
- 20. NTE entered into a Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement with Duke on November 8, 2017 (the "LGIA"). Attached hereto as Exhibit 2.
- 21. The LGIA is a standard agreement drafted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") and used by all large utilities and interconnection customers in the United States.
- 22. Stephanie Clarkson, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of NTE Energy, signed the LGIA on behalf of NTE.

23. LGIA Section 2.3 states.

2.3 Termination Procedures.

- 2.3.1 Written Notice. This LGIA may be terminated by Interconnection Customer after giving Transmission Provider ninety (90) Calendar Days advance written notice, or by Transmission Provider notifying FERC after the Generating Facility permanently ceases Commercial Operation.
- 2.3.2 Default. Either Party may terminate this LGIA in accordance with Article 17.
- 2.3.3 Notwithstanding Articles 2.3.1 and 2.3.2, no termination shall become effective until the Parties have complied with all Applicable Laws and Regulations applicable to such termination, including the filing with FERC of a notice of termination of this LGIA, which notice has been accepted for filing by FERC.

24. LGIA Section 2.4 provides:

- 2.4 Termination Costs. If a Party elects to terminate this Agreement pursuant to Article 2.3 above, each Party shall pay all costs incurred (including any cancellation costs relating to orders or contracts for Interconnection Facilities and equipment) or charges assessed by the other Party, as of the date of the other Party's receipt of such notice of termination, that are the responsibility of the Terminating Party under this LGIA. In the event of termination by a Party, the Parties shall use commercially Reasonable Efforts to mitigate the costs, damages and charges arising as a consequence of termination. Upon termination of this LGIA, unless otherwise ordered or approved by FERC:
 - 2.4.1 With respect to any portion of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities that have not yet been constructed or installed, Transmission Provider shall to the extent possible and with Interconnection Customer's authorization cancel any pending orders of, or return, any materials or equipment for, or contracts for construction of, such facilities; provided that in the event Interconnection Customer elects not to authorize such cancellation, Interconnection Customer shall assume all payment obligations with respect to such materials, equipment, and contracts, and Transmission Provider shall deliver such material and equipment, and, if necessary, assign such contracts, to Interconnection Customer as soon as practicable, at Interconnection Customer's expense. To the extent that Interconnection Customer has already paid Transmission Provider for any or all such costs of materials or equipment not taken by Interconnection Customer, Transmission Provider shall promptly refund such amounts to Interconnection

Customer, less any costs, including penalties incurred by Transmission Provider to cancel any pending orders of or return such materials, equipment, or contracts.

If an Interconnection Customer terminates this LGIA, it shall be responsible for all costs incurred in association with that Interconnection Customer's interconnection, including any cancellation costs relating to orders or contracts for Interconnection Facilities and equipment, and other expenses including any Network Upgrades for which Transmission Provider has incurred expenses and has not been reimbursed by Interconnection Customer.

- 2.4.2 Transmission Provider may, at its option, retain any portion of such materials, equipment, or facilities that Interconnection Customer chooses not to accept delivery of, in which case Transmission Provider shall be responsible for all costs associated with procuring such materials, equipment, or facilities.
- 2.4.3 With respect to any portion of the Interconnection Facilities, and any other facilities already installed or constructed pursuant to the terms of this LGIA, Interconnection Customer shall be responsible for all costs associated with the removal, relocation or other disposition or retirement of such materials, equipment, or facilities.

25. LGIA Section 5.16 provides:

5.16 Suspension. Interconnection Customer reserves the right, upon written notice to Transmission Provider, to suspend at any time all work by Transmission Provider associated with the construction and installation of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and/or Network Upgrades required under this LGIA with the condition that Transmission System shall be left in a safe and reliable condition in accordance with Good Utility Practice and Transmission Provider's safety and reliability criteria. In such event, Interconnection Customer shall be responsible for all reasonable and necessary costs which Transmission Provider (i) has incurred pursuant to this LGIA prior to the suspension and (ii) incurs in suspending such work, including any costs incurred to perform such work as may be necessary to ensure the safety of persons and property and the integrity of the Transmission System during such suspension and, if applicable, any costs incurred in connection with the cancellation or suspension of material, equipment and labor contracts which Transmission Provider cannot reasonably avoid; provided, however, that prior to canceling or suspending any such material, equipment or labor contract, Transmission Provider shall obtain Interconnection Customer's authorization to do so.

Transmission Provider shall invoice Interconnection Customer for such costs pursuant to Article 12 and shall use due diligence to minimize its costs. In the event Interconnection Customer suspends work by Transmission Provider required under this LGIA pursuant to this Article 5.16, and has not requested Transmission Provider to recommence the work required under this LGIA on or before the expiration of three (3) years following

commencement of such suspension, this LGIA shall be deemed terminated. The threeyear period shall begin on the date the suspension is requested, or the date of the written notice to Transmission Provider, if no effective date is specified.

26. LGIA Section 12.3 states.

- 12.3 Payment. Invoices shall be rendered to the paying Party at the address specified in Appendix F. The Party receiving the invoice shall pay the invoice within thirty (30) Calendar Days of receipt. All payments shall be made in immediately available funds payable to the other Party, or by wire transfer to a bank named and account designated by the invoicing Party. Payment of invoices by either Party will not constitute a waiver of any rights or claims either Party may have under this LGIA.
 - 27. LGIA Section 14.2 states,

14.2 Governing Law.

- 14.2.1 The validity, interpretation and performance of this LGIA and each of its provisions shall be governed by the laws of the state where the Point of Interconnection is located, without regard to its conflicts of law principles.
- 14.2.2 This LGIA is subject to all Applicable Laws and Regulations.
- 14.2.3 Each Party expressly reserves the right to seek changes in, appeal, or otherwise contest any laws, orders, rules, or regulations of a Governmental Authority.
- 28. LGIA Article 17 provides,

Article 17. Default

17.1 Default

17.1.1 General. No Default shall exist where such failure to discharge an obligation (other than the payment of money) is the result of Force Majeure as defined in this LGIA or the result of an act of omission of the other Party. Upon a Breach,

the non-breaching Party shall give written notice of such Breach to the breaching Party. Except as provided in Article 17.1.2, the breaching Party shall have thirty (30) Calendar Days from receipt of the Default notice within which to cure such Breach; provided however, if such Breach is not capable of cure within thirty (30) Calendar Days, the breaching Party shall commence such cure within thirty (30) Calendar Days after notice and continuously and diligently complete such cure within ninety (90) Calendar Days from receipt of the Default notice; and, if cured within such time, the Breach specified in such notice shall cease to exist.

- 17.1.2 Right to Terminate. If a Breach is not cured as provided in this article, or if a Breach is not capable of being cured within the period provided for herein, the non-breaching Party shall have the right to declare a Default and terminate this LGIA by written notice at any time until cure occurs, and be relieved of any further obligation hereunder and, whether or not that Party terminates this LGIA, to recover from the breaching Party all amounts due hereunder, plus all other damages and remedies to which it is entitled at law or in equity. The provisions of this article will survive termination of this LGIA.
- 29. LGIA Section 27.1 provides,

Article 27. Disputes

- 27.1 Submission. In the event either Party has a dispute, or asserts a claim, that arises out of or in connection with this LGIA or its performance, such Party (the "disputing Party") shall provide the other Party with written notice of the dispute or claim ("Notice of Dispute"). Such dispute or claim shall be referred to a designated senior representative of each Party for resolution on an informal basis as promptly as practicable after receipt of the Notice of Dispute by the other Party. In the event the designated representatives are unable to resolve the claim or dispute through unassisted or assisted negotiations within thirty (30) Calendar Days of the other Party's receipt of the Notice of Dispute, such claim or dispute may, upon mutual agreement of the Parties, be submitted to arbitration and resolved in accordance with the arbitration procedures set forth below. In the event the Parties do not agree to submit such claim or dispute to arbitration, each Party may exercise whatever rights and remedies it may have in equity or at law consistent with the terms of this LGIA.
- 30. In order for Duke Energy to permit the Reidsville Energy Center to connect with Duke Energy's power grid, Duke Energy had to undertake network upgrades.
- 31. These upgrades were defined in paragraph 2(b) of Appendix A to the LGIA (the "Network Upgrades") as follows:

(b) Other Network Upgrades:

| Other Network Upgrades | Date Required | Estimated Cost |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Modification of 230 kV Ernest Switching Station | October 1, 2019 | \$4,880,003 |
| Upgrade Jacobs 230kV Lines (Belews Creek Switching Station to Earnest Switching Station) (13.71 Miles) with 1158 ACSS/TW 54/7 | July 1, 2021 | \$26,605,789 |
| Upgrade Belews Creek Switching Station 230kV Line Terminal | January 1, 2019 | \$374,445 |
| Add 2% Reactors on Sadler 230kV Lines @ Sadler Tie | February 1, 2021 | \$27,057,125 |
| Add 230/100kV Transformer @ North Greensboro Tie | January 1, 2019 | \$0 |
| 100kV OD Breakers @ North Greensboro Tie (8 Breakers) | January 1, 2021 | \$0 |
| GSU Neutral Reactors @ Belews Creek Steam Station | January 1, 2020 | \$0 |
| TOTAL | | \$58,917,362 |

- 32. The Network Upgrades identified were estimated to cost \$58,917,362.
- 33. Duke Energy prepared a payment schedule that would account for the work that would be performed to accommodate the network upgrades identified in Appendix A.
- 34. The payment schedule was designed to ensure that Duke Energy had adequate funding from NTE to cover and stay ahead of actual costs incurred by Duke Energy.
 - 35. NTE was aware that the payment scheduled was designed this way.
 - 36. Appendix B outlined the payment schedule:

Payment Schedule

| Payment Date | Associated Activity | Cost |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------|
| November 2, 2017 | Signed LGIA | \$500,000 |
| May 1, 2018 | Conceptual Design Complete | \$1,100,000 |
| October 1, 2018 | DEC Project Commit/Material Procurement | \$8,500,000 |
| March 1, 2019 | Engineering Complete | \$17,750,000 |
| October 1, 2019 | Transmission Back-feed Available | \$31,067,363 |

37. On April 18, 2018, Ms. Miller stated the following:

Just checking in on Reidsville. The last time we talked, I asked if we could start getting a Statement of Account when you get the chance. On Kings Mountain, these were monthly and just showed the amount NTE has paid, projected spend, and actuals. At this point, we've given Duke \$500,000 and will stay should that amount to ensure you're whole throughout the project. Our east payment is May 1 and we'll be sending you \$1.1996. We will wire it, but I'll definitely lot you and Hannah know when it is sent. I'm guessing on Hannah's email address, so please forward if it's incorrect (hi Hannahi).

I hope everything's going well so far. Let me know if you guys have any questions or need saything.

How about Kings Hountain? I'm guessing you're aware, but we sync'd to the grid this past weekend.

Thanks i

Kristi Miller Director of Commercial Origination 784.287.3843 Coll kmiller@nisenergy.com www.mtemorgy.com

- 38. Duke Energy provided statements to NTE on a nearly monthly basis as the project progressed, which included details related to Duke Energy's work
 - 39. These monthly spreadsheets kept NTE apprised of Duke Energy's progress.
- 40. On or about September 20, 2018, NTE and Duke Energy had an in-person meeting in Duke Energy's offices in Charlotte, North Carolina to discuss alignment of the Reidsville Energy Center project and the schedule for the Network Upgrades.
- 41. Ms. Miller, Mr. Green, and Garrett Weeks, Director of Development, of NTE Energy participated in the September 20, 2018 meeting.
- 42. NTE informed Duke Energy that it wanted to align NTE's project schedule with Duke Energy's work on the network upgrades and push back the schedule slightly.
- 43. NTE and Duke Energy agreed to adjust the milestone dates and the payment schedule.
- 44. On October 10, 2018, NTE and Duke Energy entered into Amendment No. 1 to the LGIA, attached hereto as **Exhibit 3**, which pushed back the milestones and payment schedule to accommodate NTE's request.
 - 45. Amendment No. 1 replaced Appendix B.
 - 46. The new payment schedule was as follows:

Payment Schedule

| Payment Date | Associated Activity | Cost |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------|
| November 1, 2017 | Signed LGIA | \$500,000 |
| May 1, 2018 | Conceptual Design Complete | \$1,100,000 |
| January 2, 2019 | DEC Project Commit/Material Procurement | \$8,500,000 |
| June 1, 2019 | Engineering Complete | \$17,750,000 |
| January 2, 2020 | Transmission Backfeed Available | \$31,067,363 |

47. On January 30, 2019, NTE Energy published the following press release:

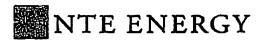
NTE Energy mandates banks for Reidsville Energy Center

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla.—NTE Energy has mandated banks to lead debt financing for NTE's Reidsville Energy Center.

Read More →

Jan 30, 2019

https://www.nteenergy.com/press-room (last visited September 4, 2019).



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

NTE Energy mandates banks for Reidsville Energy Center

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla.—NTE Energy has mandated banks to lead debt financing for NTE's Reidsville Energy Center.

Credit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank and Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation will arrange financing for the 475-megawatt natural gas-fired power plant under construction in Rockingham County, North Carolina.

"NTE is excited to partner with these industry leaders to lead the financing of the Reidsville Energy Center," said Seth Shortlidge, CEO of NTE Energy. "Joining with these world-class financial institutions is an important milestone in our mission to bring cleaner, more efficient and reliable power to the Carolinas."

Once in operation, Shortlidge noted, the Reidsville Energy Center will have the capacity to provide power to more than 400,000 homes. Construction of the facility is expected to create approximately 500 construction jobs as well as two dozen permanent positions to handle daily operations, making a positive impact on the local economy.

The facility's construction follows NTE's opening of two similar power plants last year. The 475-megawatt Middletown (Ohio) Energy Center opened in May 2018, followed by the 475-megawatt Kings Mountain (North Carolina) Energy Center in August. NTE also has several other facilities in various stages of active development, including natural gas-fired plants in Killingly, Connecticut; Gastonia, North Carolina; and Anderson County, South Carolina; as well as the Fayetteville Solar Energy Center, a 30-megawatt facility that will provide clean, renewable energy to communities served by NTE.

- 48. In January 2019, NTE asked to have a meeting with Duke Energy to discuss adjusting the dates in Appendix B.
- 49. On or about January 24, 2019, Duke Energy and NTE had an in-person meeting in Duke Energy's offices in Charlotte, North Carolina to discuss the timing of the payment schedule and the milestones in Appendix B.
- 50. Ms. Miller and Mr. Green of NTE Energy participated in the January 24, 2019 meeting.
- 51. Mr. Green informed Duke Energy that NTE would prefer to move the work back to 2020 due to not wanting to raise equity for the Reidsville Energy Center project at that time, but that he was willing to move forward with a short extension of the payment schedule.
- 52. Mr. Green did not ask to suspend the LGIA or inform Duke Energy that NTE was experiencing any financial difficulties.
- 53. Duke Energy relied on Mr. Green's representations that NTE had an ability to pay the contractual payments after a short extension of the Payment Schedule and intended to move forward with the Reidsville Energy Center.
 - 54. Duke Energy agreed to adjust the milestone dates and the payment schedule.

- 55. On February 14, 2019, NTE and Duke Energy entered into Amendment No. 2 to the LGIA, attached hereto as **Exhibit 4**, which pushed back the milestones and payment schedule to accommodate NTE's request.
 - 56. Amendment No. 2 again replaced Appendix B.
 - 57. The new payment schedule (the "Payment Schedule") was as follows:

| Payment Date | Associated Activity | Cost |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| November 1, 2017 | Signed LGIA | \$500,000 |
| May 1, 2018 | Conceptual Design Complete | \$1,100,000 |
| March 1, 2019 | DEC Project Commit/Material Procurement | \$2,500,000 |
| May 1, 2019 | DEC Project Commit/Material Procurement | \$4,500,000 |
| July 1, 2019 | Below Grade Construction & Major Equipment | \$23,700,000 |
| January 2, 2020 | Remaining Equipment & Complete Ernest Construction | \$26,617,363 |

- 58. At the time NTE entered into Amendment No. 2, NTE knew the March 1, 2019 payment of \$2,500,000 was due two weeks later.
- 59. Upon information and belief, NTE had no intention of making the March 1, 2019 payment of \$2,500,000 when it entered into Amendment No. 2.

NTE's Failure to Pay

- 60. NTE timely paid the November 1, 2017 payment of \$500,000 and the May 1, 2018 payment of \$1,100,000.
- 61. Due to a glitch in Duke Energy's invoicing system, no paper or electronic invoices were submitted to NTE for the March 1 and May 1, 2019 payments.
 - 62. Duke Energy was unaware that it was not sending out invoices to NTE.
 - 63. NTE did not notify Duke Energy that it was not receiving invoices.
- 64. On or about May 15, 2019, Mr. Green sent a letter notifying Duke Energy that NTE had decided to suspend work for one year ("Notice of Suspension"):

NTE Carolinas II, LLC

May 15, 2019

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC 526 South Church Street EC02B Charlotte, NC 28202 Attn: Scott Lewter Lead System Ops Analyst

Dear Scott,

Reference is made to the Large Interconnection Agreement dated November 8, 2019 (the "Agreement"), between Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC ("Duke") and NTE Carolinas II, LLC ("NTE") for the purpose of interconnecting the Reidsville Combined Cycle Facility with Duke's Transmission System.

As required in Section 5.16, NTE notifies Duke of its decision to suspend work associated with the construction of the Interconnection Facilities and/or Network Upgrades, as defined in the Agreement. Due to additional flexibility with scheduling, NTE has determined to postpone interconnection facilities and/or network upgrade construction work for a period of one year. We anticipate that notice to recommence work related to construction of interconnection facilities and/or network upgrades on or before May 1, 2020.

We look forward to working with you to continue the construction of this project in the near future and we thank you for your continued support. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael Green

SVP Development Carolinas

904.436.6892 Office

321.299.7714 Cell

ingreen@nteenergy.com

24 Cathedral Place, Suite 300, St. Augustine, FL 32084 www.nteenergy.com

- 65. When Duke Energy received NTE's Notice of Suspension, Duke Energy reached out to ask whether NTE had made the March 1 and May 1, 2019 payments.
- 66. On May 16, 2019, Ms. Miller confirmed that NTE had not paid the March 1 and May 1, 2019 payments in accordance with the Payment Schedule. She stated, "We will need to settle up with you based on what we owe to date."

- 67. Duke Energy reasonably relied on Ms. Miller's statement that NTE would pay what it owed to Duke Energy.
- 68. Upon information and belief, NTE did not have the present ability to pay and did not intend to settle up what was owed to Duke Energy.
- 69. Upon information and belief, Ms. Miller and Mr. Green misrepresented NTE's financial status and its intention to pay.
- 70. On May 22, 2019, Duke Energy sent a letter to NTE notifying NTE of its breach of the LGIA due to the non-payment of the March 1, 2019 payment of \$2,500,000, as set forth in Amendment No. 2, Appendix B's payment schedule ("May 22 Notice").
- 71. Pursuant to Article 17.1.1 of the LGIA, NTE had 30 calendar days from receipt of the May 22 Notice to cure.
 - 72. NTE did not cure the breach within 30 days of receipt of the May 22 Notice.
- 73. On June 4, 2019, Duke Energy sent a letter to NTE notifying NTE of its breach of the LGIA due to the non-payment of the March 1, 2019 payment of \$2,500,000 and the May 1, 2019 payment of \$4,500,000, as set forth in Amendment No. 2, Appendix B's payment schedule (the "June 4 Notice").
 - 74. NTE did not cure the breach within 30 days of receipt of the June 4 Notice.
- 75. On August 6, 2019, representatives from NTE Energy, including Ms. Miller and Mr. Green, and Duke Energy met in person in Duke Energy's offices in Charlotte, North Carolina to discuss NTE's payment defaults.
- 76. In the August 6, 2019 meeting, Mr. Green asserted that NTE had no money to cure the breaches under the LGIA.
- 77. Mr. Green explained that the Reidsville Energy Center would operate in a bilateral power market in North Carolina and as of August 6, 2019, had been unable to subscribe any customers to purchase energy or capacity from that facility.
- 78. Mr. Green stated that NTE Energy solicited financing from lenders through a single financing solicitation for both the Reidsville Energy Center and a project that NTE Energy was building in Connecticut.
- 79. Mr. Green explained that NTE Energy allocated funds received from that financing to the Connecticut project since it had already cleared the capacity auction market and that NTE Energy did not allocate any funds to the Reidsville Energy Center.
 - 80. Duke Energy has stopped work on constructing the Network Upgrades.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF BREACH OF CONTRACT AND BREACH OF THE DUTY OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING (against NTE)

- 81. The allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of the Complaint are incorporated by reference as set forth in full.
 - 82. On or about November 8, 2017, NTE entered into the LGIA with Duke Energy.
- 83. On October 10, 2018, NTE and Duke Energy entered into Amendment No. 1 to the LGIA.
- 84. On February 14, 2019, NTE and Duke Energy entered into Amendment No. 2 to the LGIA.
- 85. The LGIA, Amendment No. 1, and Amendment No. 2 are valid, binding and enforceable contracts between Duke Energy and NTE.
- 86. The LGIA, Amendment No. 1, and Amendment No. 2 are supported by due consideration.
- 87. Duke Energy has fully performed its obligations under LGIA, Amendment No. 1, and Amendment No. 2.
- 88. Duke Energy notified NTE of its defaults under the LGIA, Amendment No. 1, and Amendment No. 2.
- 89. NTE did not cure the defaults within 30 days after receipt of the May 22 Notice and the June 4 Notice.
- 90. NTE breached the LGIA, Amendment No. 1 and Amendment No. 2 by failing to pay.
 - 91. NTE's breach is continuing, willful and purposeful.
- 92. Through the actions alleged above, NTE also has breached its duty of good faith and fair dealing, which is implied in every contract.
- 93. As a direct and proximate result of NTE's breach of contract, Duke Energy suffered and will continue to suffer damages in an amount in excess of \$25,000.00, the exact amount to be determined at trial.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF (In the Alternative) UNJUST ENRICHMENT (against NTE)

- 94. The allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of the Complaint are incorporated by reference as set forth in full.
- 95. Duke Energy provided NTE with the benefit of services related to construction of Network Upgrades to accommodate the development of the Reidsville Energy Center.
 - 96. NTE accepted these services without compensating Duke Energy.
 - 97. NTE have unjustly retained services related to the network upgrades.
- 98. NTE has been unjustly enriched at Duke Energy's expense, in an amount in excess of \$25,000.00, the exact amount to be determined at trial.

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION (against Defendants)

- 99. The allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of the Complaint are incorporated by reference as set forth in full.
- 100. Defendants had a duty to use reasonable care to ensure that its representations to Duke Energy concerning the Network Upgrades, the Payment Schedule, and the Reidsville Energy Center, and material matters relating thereto, were true and complete, and were fairly and adequately communicated to Duke Energy.
- 101. Defendants held themselves out to having obtained financing for the Reidsville Energy Center.
- 102. Defendants falsely represented to Duke Energy that it had an ability to pay in accordance with the amended Payment Schedule.
- 103. Ms. Miller falsely represented that NTE would "settle up" the amount owed to Duke Energy.
- 104. Defendants purposefully concealed from Duke Energy that there were insufficient funds and assets in NTE to pay its liabilities.
- 105. Defendants purposefully concealed from Duke Energy that NTE Energy had diverted financing from the Reidsville Energy Center to another project in Connecticut.
 - 106. Defendants' misrepresentations were calculated to deceive Duke Energy.
- 107. Duke Energy was in fact deceived by Defendants' false representations. Duke Energy further believed that NTE had sufficient financial assets to meet its contractual obligations.

- 108. Duke Energy's reliance on Defendants' representations was reasonable.
- 109. As a result of Defendants' negligent misrepresentations, Duke Energy has been damaged in an amount in excess of \$25,000.00, the exact amount to be determined at trial.

FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES ACT (against Defendants)

- 110. The allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of the Complaint are incorporated by reference as set forth in full.
- 111. As described above, Defendants' actions constitute unfair and/or deceptive trade practices as those terms are used in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 75-1, et seq. Defendants' unfair and deceptive acts include, but are not limited to, misrepresentations and material omissions, deception in the amendment process, wrongful failures to pay due and proper amounts, and other willful, wanton, reckless, intentional, unlawful, oppressive, unscrupulous, and wrongful acts as described in this Complaint.
- 112. At all times relevant to the facts and circumstances giving rise to this action, Defendants were engaged in activities affecting commerce. Defendants' actions were in and affecting commerce, as that term is used in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 75-1, et seq.
- 113. Defendants' unfair and/or deceptive acts or practices are the direct and proximate cause of Duke Energy's injury.
- 114. Duke Energy has been damaged by Defendants' unfair and/or deceptive trade practices in an amount to be determined at trial.
- 115. Duke Energy's damages should be trebled pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 75-16, and Duke Energy should be awarded its costs and attorneys' fees pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 75-16.1.

FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF PIERCING THE CORPORATE VEIL (against NTE, NTE Holdings, and NTE Energy)

- 116. The allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of the Complaint are incorporated by reference as set forth in full.
- 117. Upon information and belief, NTE Energy exercises complete domination and control over NTE and NTE Holdings.
 - 118. Each entity shares a common principal place of business.
- 119. NTE Energy treats NTE and NTE Holdings as synonymous with NTE Energy, and NTE Energy has failed to comply with corporate formalities.

- a. The LGIA was signed by NTE Energy's Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.
- b. NTE Energy holds itself out as the owner and operator of the Reidsville Energy Center on its website.
- c. NTE does not have a separate website.
- d. Upon information and belief, NTE does not have any of its own employees.
- e. Upon information and belief, NTE Holdings does not have any of its own employees.
- f. NTE Energy employees negotiated the LGIA, Amendment No. 1, Amendment No. 2.
- g. NTE Energy employees coordinated all activities related to the Reidsville Energy Center with Duke Energy.
- h. Upon information and belief, funds are shifted among and comingled between NTE, NTE Holdings, and NTE Energy.
- i. NTE Energy issued a press release stating that it had "mandated banks to lead debt financing for NTE's Reidsville Energy Center."
- j. Upon information and belief, NTE Energy comingled financing for multiple projects and diverted funds from the Reidsville Energy Center to a project in Connecticut.
- 120. NTE and NTE Holdings are mere instrumentalities or alter-egos of NTE Energy and have no independent identity.
- 121. The corporate entities of NTE, NTE Holdings, and NTE Energy should be disregarded and each such entity treated as one and the same.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Duke Energy respectfully requests:

- 1. Defendants be taxed with actual damages and any other relief as provided by the statutes cited in this Complaint;
- 2. Duke Energy have a recover from Defendants, jointly and severally, a sum not less than \$25,000, plus prejudgment interest from the date of the breach and post judgment interest until any judgment is paid, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 24-1 and 24-5;
- 3. That the Court award Duke Energy its reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 75-16.1 and other applicable law;

- 4. That the Court treble Duke Energy's damages pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 75-16;
- 5. The costs of this action be assessed against Defendants; and
- 6. Duke Energy have such additional relief as the Court deems just and proper.

THIS 6th day of September, 2019.

Tricia M. Derr, N.C. State Bar No. 24438

Phoebe Coddington, N.C. State Bar No. 35218

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Attorneys for Plaintiff

EXHIBIT 1

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. EMP-92, SUB 0

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

| In the Matter of | |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Application of NTE Carolinas II, LLC, for |) |
| a Certificate of Public Convenience and |) ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE |
| Necessity to Construct a 500-MW Natural |) WITH CONDITIONS |
| Gas-Fueled Merchant Power Plant in |) |
| Rockingham County, North Carolina |) |

HEARD ON: Tuesday, October 25, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., at the Rockingham County Courthouse, Superior Courtroom A, 170 Highway 65, Reidsville, North Carolina, and

Wednesday, November 2, 2016, at 2:00 p.m., in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina

BEFORE: Commissioner ToNola D. Brown-Bland, Presiding; Commissioner Bryan E. Beatty and Commissioner James G. Patterson

APPEARANCES:

For NTE Carolinas II, LLC:

M. Gray Styers, Jr., Smith Moore Leatherwood, LLP, 434 Fayetteville Street, Suite 2800, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

For North Carolina Waste Reduction and Awareness Network:

John D. Runkle, 2121 Damascus Church Road, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516

For the Using and Consuming Public:

Dianna W. Downey, Staff Attorney, Public Staff - North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4326 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4326

BY THE COMMISSION: On July 29, 2016, NTE Carolinas II, LLC (NTE), a wholly-owned first-tier subsidiary of NTE Carolinas II Holdings, LLC, and an affiliate of NTE Energy, LLC (NTE Energy), filed an application pursuant to G.S. 62-110.1(a) and

Commission Rule R8-63 for a certificate of public convenience and necessity (CPCN or certificate) authorizing the construction and operation of an approximately 500-megawatt (MW) natural gas-fueled generating facility in Rockingham County, North Carolina, to be known as the Reidsville Energy Center (Facility). On the same date, NTE pre-filed the direct testimony of Michael C. Green, Vice-President, in support of the application.

On August 10, 2016, the Public Staff-North Carolina Utilities Commission filed a Notice of Completeness stating that the Public Staff had reviewed the application, as required by Commission Rule R8-63(d), and that the Public Staff considered the application to be complete. In addition, the Public Staff requested that the Commission issue a procedural order setting the application for hearing, requiring public notice pursuant to G.S. 62-82, and addressing other procedural matters.

On August 16, 2016, the Commission issued an order setting the application for hearing, requiring NTE to provide appropriate public notice, establishing deadlines for the filing of petitions to intervene, intervenor testimony, and rebuttal testimony, and requiring the parties to comply with certain discovery guidelines.

On September 21, 2016, NTE filed a letter amending the application to add approximately eighty (80) acres of property as a part of the project site. In addition, NTE filed an updated map showing the new acreage. By Order dated September 23, 2016, the Commission amended the Public Notice to reflect the additional acreage of the project site and required that the amendment to the application be submitted to the Clearinghouse Coordinator of the Office of Policy and Planning of the Department of Administration for distribution by the Coordinator to State agencies having an interest in the amended application.

On September 30, 2016, the Clearinghouse Coordinator of the Office of Policy and Planning of the Department of Administration filed comments with the Commission concerning the original application stating that because of the nature of the comments, no further review is needed by the Commission to determine compliance with the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act.

On October 5, 2016, the North Carolina Waste Awareness and Reduction Network (NC WARN) filed a motion to intervene, which was granted by Order issued on October 7, 2016. On October 11, 2016, NTE filed a motion asking the Commission to reconsider its Order granting NC WARN's motion to intervene and objected to the intervention of NC WARN.

On October 17, 2016, the Commission disposed of NTE's motion for reconsideration by treating it as a timely objection to the motion to intervene and denied NTE's objection to NC WARN's intervention.

On October 18, 2016, the Public Staff filed the testimony of Dustin R. Metz, an engineer in the Electric Division of the Public Staff. On October 19, 2016, NC WARN filed

the testimony of William E. Powers, the principal of Powers Engineering in San Diego, California.

On October 25, 2016, the Commission conducted a public witness hearing at the Rockingham County Courthouse in Reidsville, North Carolina, as provided in the Commission's August 16, 2016 Order and in the published notice, for the purpose of receiving public witness testimony regarding NTE's application. Sixteen public witnesses spoke at the hearing.

On October 26, 2016, NTE filed a motion to strike certain portions of witness Powers' testimony and a motion in limine requesting that testimony, arguments, and cross-examination be limited to relevant issues. These motions were denied by Order issued November 1, 2016.

On October 27, 2016, an Affidavit of Publication prepared by the Rockingham County Advertising Sales Manager of the <u>Greensboro News & Record</u> was filed on behalf of NTE indicating that NTE had caused publication of public notice as required by the Commission's August 16, 2016 and September 23, 2016 Orders. On the same date, NTE filed the rebuttal testimony of Michael C. Green.

On November 1, 2016, the State Clearinghouse filed a response to the amended application stating that because of the nature of the comments, no further review is needed by the Commission to determine compliance with the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act.

Also on November 1, 2016, NTE filed the affidavit of Michael C. Green responding to issues raised at the public witness hearing on October 25, 2016.

On November 2, 2016, the Commission held the expert witness hearing as scheduled for the purpose of receiving the expert testimony of the parties.

On December 1, 2016, NTE filed two late-filed exhibits, as requested by the Commission at the expert witness hearing.

On December 22, 2016, NC WARN filed a post-hearing brief.

Also on December 22, 2016, NTE and the Public Staff filed a joint proposed order.

Based on the testimony presented at the hearings and the entire record of this proceeding, including matters of which judicial notice has been taken, the Commission makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. NTE is organized under the laws of the State of Delaware with its principal place of business in St. Augustine, Florida, and it is authorized to do business in North Carolina.
- 2. NTE's affiliate, NTE Energy, plans to develop, construct, own, acquire, and operate independent power plants in the competitive wholesale markets in the United States. NTE Energy companies recently closed financing and began construction on two projects totaling 950 MW of capacity and involving approximately \$1.25 billion in financing. One of those projects is the 475-MW Kings Mountain Energy Center, the construction of which was approved by the Commission's issuance of a CPCN in Docket No. EMP-76, Sub 0 on October 28, 2014.
- 3. In compliance with G.S. 62-110.1(a) and Commission Rule R8-63, NTE properly filed with the Commission an application for a CPCN authorizing the construction and operation of an approximately 500-MW natural gas-fueled electric generation plant to be located in Rockingham County, North Carolina.
- 4. The proposed Facility will be located on approximately 20 acres of an approximately 170-acre site in Rockingham County, with the majority of the site being bounded by North Carolina Highway 65 to the east and New Lebanon Church Road to the west.
- 5. The Facility will be constructed as a one-on-one combined cycle electric generating facility and will consist of one combustion turbine generator; one heat recovery steam generator; and one steam turbine generator. Natural gas will be the only fuel burned by the combined cycle unit, consuming about 95,000 MMBtu/Day to operate at full output.
- 6. Construction of the Facility is anticipated to begin in the first quarter of 2018, with commercial operation scheduled to begin as early as the fourth quarter of 2020, with an expected service life of 30 years.
- 7. Commission Rule R8-63(e) provides that a certificate shall be subject to revocation if any of the federal, state, or local licenses or permits required for construction and operation of the generating facility are not obtained or, having been obtained, are revoked.
- 8. In accordance with Commission Rule R8-63(b)(2)(v), NTE's application included a Table of Permits and Approvals, which listed the federal, State, and local permits and approvals required for the Facility and the status of those permits and approvals.
- 9. The granting of the CPCN in this proceeding should be conditioned upon the requirement that the Facility shall be constructed and operated in strict accordance

with applicable laws and regulations, including any local zoning and environmental permitting requirements.

- 10. The CPCN should also be conditioned upon NTE's abstaining from attempting to exercise any power of eminent domain under North Carolina law related to the Facility and NTE's application.
- 11. In addition, the grant of a CPCN in this docket should be conditioned upon the requirement that the CPCN holder, and all future holders of the CPCN, will obtain the approval of the Commission before selling, transferring, or assigning the CPCN and/or generating facility to an unaffiliated third-party. Any other planned sale, transfer, or assignment of the CPCN and/or generating facility is subject to Commission action as appropriate pursuant to Commission Rule R8-63(e)(4).
- 12. The required regulatory permits and approvals and conditions imposed by the Commission for the construction of the Facility are sufficient to ensure that the environmental concerns raised by NC WARN and members of the public are satisfied.
- 13. NTE has made a sufficient showing of need for the proposed Facility. Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (DEC), and Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP), each show a need for approximately 5,000 MW of additional generating capacity due to load growth and planned retirements over the next 15 years. In addition, based on NTE's assessments and investigation of market activity by regional load-serving entities, NTE has identified specific wholesale customers interested in purchasing the output of the proposed Facility.
- 14. NTE's proposed merchant plant will be financed by private companies, rather than ratepayers. Under this approach, if assets become stranded, the owner will face the financial consequences, not captive North Carolina retail electric customers. Thus, the construction costs of the Facility will not qualify for inclusion in, and will not be considered in a future determination of the rate base of a public utility pursuant to G.S. 62-133, and construction of the Facility creates no financial risk to North Carolina retail electric customers.
- 15. It is reasonable, appropriate and serves the public interest to grant the requested CPCN to NTE, as conditioned herein.

EVIDENCE AND CONCLUSIONS FOR FINDINGS OF FACT NOS. 1-2

These findings of fact are essentially informational, procedural, or jurisdictional in nature, pertain to the identity of the applicant, and are not in dispute. They are supported by the application and the exhibits thereto and the pre-filed testimony of NTE witness Green and public witness Nick Hendricks.

NTE's verified application stated that NTE's affiliate, NTE Energy, plans to develop, construct, own, acquire, and operate independent power plants in the competitive wholesale markets in the United States. NTE Energy companies recently

closed financing and began construction on two projects totaling 950 MW of capacity and involving approximately \$1.25 billion in financing. One of these is the 475-MW Kings Mountain Energy Center (KMEC) in Kings Mountain, North Carolina, for which the Commission issued a CPCN to NTE Carolinas, LLC, in Docket No. EMP-76, Sub 0, on October 28, 2014. The other is a 475-MW natural gas-fueled combined cycle facility in Middletown, Ohio.

NTE Witness Green testified that the KMEC site is under construction, and the construction is on schedule. All piles have been installed, the heat recovery steam generator (HRSG) and exhaust stack foundations have been placed, the combustion turbine generator (CTG) and steam turbine generator (STG) foundations are being formed, and rebar has been installed. Concrete placement for the CTG foundation has recently begun. Excavation for underground water, fuel gas, instrument air, drain piping, and the duct bank is ongoing. The fabrication, installation and backfilling of equipment for the process water, fuel gas, fire water, and raw water pipes, as well as the oily water drains, and the pipe systems for instrument air and hydrogen are ongoing. Mitsubishi Hitachi Power Systems Americas, Inc., has begun fabrication of the CTG, Toshiba America Energy Systems Corporation has begun fabrication of the STG, and Vogt Power International, Inc. has begun fabrication of the HRSG.

At the public witness hearing, Mr. Nick Hendricks, the Assistant City Manager of the City of Kings Mountain, testified regarding his experiences with NTE and its Kings Mountain facility over the past three years. He stated that NTE has worked diligently with the city and county to address issues arising from that facility, and stated that "we are very impressed with what we have seen so far." (T Vol.1, p. 34) He also noted that NTE has been heavily involved in the community and is a good corporate citizen of Kings Mountain. Witness Green testified that the same management team for the Kings Mountain facility would be involved in the development and construction of the Rockingham County Facility.

EVIDENCE AND CONCLUSIONS FOR FINDINGS OF FACT NOS. 3-6

These findings are supported by the application and the testimony of NTE witness Green and Public Staff witness Metz.

North Carolina General Statute 62-110.1 and Commission Rule R8-63 provide that no person may begin construction of a facility for the generation of electricity to be directly or indirectly used for furnishing public utility service without first obtaining from the Commission a certificate that the public convenience and necessity requires or will require such construction. The Public Staff notified the Commission on August 10, 2016, that it considered the application of NTE to be complete. An examination of the application, the exhibits attached thereto, and the testimony of the witnesses confirms that NTE has complied with all filing requirements of the statute and the Commission's merchant plant certificate rule.

According to the application and the testimony of witness Green, the CPCN application in this docket, similar to the approved facility in Kings Mountain, is for an approximately 500-MW natural gas-fueled electric generation plant to be located in Rockingham County, North Carolina. The Facility will be located on approximately 20 acres of an approximately 170-acre site in Rockingham County. As proposed, the Facility will be constructed as a one-on-one combined cycle electric generating facility and will consist of one combustion turbine generator; one heat recovery steam generator; and one steam turbine generator. Construction is anticipated to begin in the first quarter of 2018, with commercial operation scheduled to begin as early as the fourth quarter of 2020, with an expected service life of 30 years.

Natural gas will be the only fuel burned by the Facility, requiring up to 95,000 MMBtu/Day to operate at full output. Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco), has existing interstate pipelines crossing the Facility site to which the Facility will be connected via an approximately 650 feet long lateral. NTE anticipates that Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc., the local distribution company serving Rockingham County, will construct, own, maintain, and be responsible for compliance testing on the lateral under a special purpose tariff.

Witness Metz testified that NTE had complied with the Commission's filing requirements, noting that the Public Staff had notified the Commission to that effect by its filing on August 10, 2016.

Based upon the foregoing, the Commission finds and concludes that NTE has filed a complete and sufficient application for a CPCN in accordance with the requirements of G.S. 62-110.1(a) and Commission Rule R8-63.

EVIDENCE AND CONCLUSIONS FOR FINDINGS OF FACT NOS. 7-12

The evidence supporting these findings is found in the application, the testimony of Public Staff witness Metz, the witnesses testifying at the public hearing, the testimony of NTE witness Green, the affidavit of NTE witness Green filed on November 1, 2016 (Green Affidavit), the testimony of NC WARN witness Powers, and the record as a whole.

As required by Commission Rule R8-63(b)(2)(v), Attachment 6 of NTE's application contained a list of all federal, State, and local permits and approvals related to the Facility and the status of the permits and approvals. As noted in the Green Affidavit, the electric generation facility proposed by NTE in this docket is subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of many local, state, and federal agencies and bodies, each of which has requirements and or permits applicable to various aspects of the Facility. NTE must comply with all of those regulations in order to develop, finance, construct, and operate the Facility. Each of the governmental agencies and bodies has specific areas and issues that it regulates. Commission Rule R8-63(e) states that a certificate shall be subject to revocation if federal, state, or local licenses or permits are not obtained or are revoked, and Commission Rule R8-63(f) requires annual reports, which should include the status of necessary licenses or permits.

In the Green Affidavit, witness Green stated under oath that at the local level, NTE was required to obtain a Special Use Permit from Rockingham County in order to comply with local zoning requirements. On July 11, 2016, the Rockingham County Planning Board conducted a quasi-judicial public hearing on the requested Special Use Permit for the Facility (Special Use Permit Case #2016-006). During the course of that hearing, it was noted that the Facility will be located next to an existing 874-MW power plant (the Duke Rockingham plant) that has been there for about 20 years, and that there is a large compressor station on the Williams Gas Pipeline approximately one mile to the north of NTE's proposed Facility. As required by the Rockingham County Unified Development Ordinance, the Planning Board made the following findings, based upon the competent. material, and substantial evidence presented under oath at that hearing on the Special Use Permit: (a) That the use or development is located, designed, and proposed to be operated so as to maintain or promote the public health, safety, and general welfare: (b) That the use or development complies with all required regulations and standards of this ordinance [Rockingham County Unified Development Ordinance] and with all other applicable regulations; (c) That the use or development is located, designed, and proposed to be operated so as to maintain or enhance the value of contiguous property; and (d) That the use or development conforms with the general plans for the land use and development of Rockingham County as embodied in the Unified Development Ordinance and in the Rockingham County Land Use Plan. A motion to approve the permit specifically recited these four findings of fact as the basis of approval, and the permit was approved unanimously by the seven-member Rockingham County Planning Board.

The findings of the local government planning board are informative to the Commission's deliberations of public convenience and necessity. In addition to the granting of the Public Use Permit, local governmental support of the Facility is demonstrated by the testimony of Mr. Ken Allen, Business and Economic Developer for Rockingham County, who spoke in favor of the project, noting that the Facility will significantly increase the County's tax base, create approximately 15 to 20 full-time jobs after construction, and approximately 200 to 300 construction jobs. Mr. Ronnie Tate, Director of Engineering and Public Utilities for Rockingham County, also testified that his department supported both the Facility and a mutually beneficial agreement between NTE and the County allowing for the expansion of county services.

The Commission received public witness testimony at the public hearing in the Rockingham County Courthouse on October 25, 2016. Sixteen persons made direct statements, some for and some against the proposed project. The majority of individuals spoke against the proposed project stating concerns regarding the need for the project, property values, noise and water issues. NC WARN emphasized the concerns expressed at the public hearing in its post-hearing Brief filed on December 22, 2016. In addition, thirty seven consumer statements of position were filed with the Commission. The statements generally dealt with the same concerns expressed in the public hearing. The Commission is sensitive to the issues expressed by the public witnesses and in the consumer statements of position. However, the Commission finds that these issues were directly addressed by the necessary findings of the Rockingham County Planning Board in its determination granting the required Special Use Permit. The Special Use Permit,

filed in this docket as Appendix B to the Green Affidavit, also contains specific conditions to ensure development in accordance with the site plan, compliance with all required permits and approvals, approval by the North Carolina Department of Transportation of the driveway permit, and that all applicable local ordinance requirements for public utility facilities are met.

While some concerns were expressed about the quantity of water to be used by the Facility, it was undisputed, and confirmed by a letter from Mr. Ronnie Tate (attached as Appendix A to the Green Affidavit), that the County will permit, own, operate and maintain the new water infrastructure that includes both the supply lines that bring water from the Dan River to NTE's Facility and the discharge lines returning water from the Facility to the river, as well as the intake and discharge structures. As stated in the Green Affidavit, the County will be required to comply with all federal, state, and local permitting requirements to ensure that the locations of the intake and discharge structures are compatible with the river, that the route of the piping is acceptable, and that the intake structure pumps will comply with the County noise ordinance. Specifically, the design of the intake structure, intake flows, discharge structure and discharge flows will have to meet all requirements of sections 316(b), 401, and 404 of Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR), as reviewed and administered by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

With respect to public witness concerns about noise levels at the Facility, witness Green stated in his Affidavit that NTE will meet the requirements of all applicable Rockingham County noise ordinances. He further noted that NTE recently obtained an option to acquire an additional 74 acres, bringing the project site to a total of 170 acres. Witness Green further stated that the Facility's power block will be located on about 20 acres within the 170 acres total, which NTE believes will ensure that the Facility has a minimal impact on ambient noise levels. Finally, witness Green stated that NTE is willing to meet with interested residents to discuss their concerns about the Facility's effects on residents. The Commission views NTE's acquisition of additional buffer property and its willingness to meet with residents to be important commitments that demonstrate NTE's intent to be a responsible neighbor.

In response to public witness concerns about potential impact on historic sites, witness Green stated in his Affidavit that NTE hired expert consultants who have already performed archeological, historical and cultural resource reviews and field surveys. Those results were provided to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for review. The site was recommended as ineligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and no further work was recommended. SHPO concurred with these recommendations and further agreed that no sites deemed eligible for the NRHP would be impacted by the proposed undertaking.

NC WARN stated in its post-hearing Brief that one of the reasons the Commission should deny the NTE application is NTE's natural gas plant will contribute to climate change from methane leakage and venting throughout the natural gas production and distribution cycle at a greater rate than DEC's systemwide methane impacts. Witness

Powers testified about his concerns about the environmental impacts of the Facility. He testified that natural gas-fired power generation has a substantially greater greenhouse gas (GHG) emission footprint than previously understood. He also opined that when methane leakage emissions associated with natural gas production and transport are included, the total GHG footprint of the combined cycle plant increases substantially. The total GHG footprint of DEC grid power increases at a much more modest rate when methane emissions are included, as natural gas combustion accounts for only 11 percent of DEC's 2015 power mix. He further testified that under any methane leakage scenario, the total GHG footprint from the NTE Facility will be substantially above the total GHG footprint of DEC grid power. In support of his assertions, witness Powers provided Attachment A to his testimony, which contained calculations and the assumptions underlying his assertions. However, on cross-examination, witness Powers admitted that he did not use any specific characteristics of the Facility in preparing Attachment A and had not reviewed the air permit application filed with the State's Department of Environmental Quality.

The Commission gives little weight to witness Powers' testimony that the proposed NTE Facility would have a GHG footprint (lb/MWh) greater than the total GHG footprint of DEC's grid power. The sources of base load energy to the DEC grid are primarily nuclear and coal. Nuclear energy results in a GHG footprint that is considerably less than that of natural gas. The Commission understands that the proposed Facility may enter into contracts to serve existing DEC wholesale customers and, therefore, displace generation from existing DEC plants (coal and natural gas, but not nuclear). Therefore, there could be some additional GHGs released in the first few years of the proposed plant's operation compared to DEC's footprint without the plant in service. The Commission concludes, however, that there is no substantial evidence that granting the CPCN is likely to impact, in any measurable degree, methane emissions from natural gas wells or transmission facilities.

In addition, the Commission gives substantial weight to the results filed herein by the State Clearinghouse. The State Clearinghouse provided its comments in review of the original application and the amended application. In both instances, the Clearinghouse determined that no further State Clearinghouse review action is needed for compliance with the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act.

Further, witness Metz testified that the Public Staff does not have particular expertise in the area of the impacts of electric generation on the environment. He testified that those issues are best left to the purview of environmental regulators who do have this expertise, and who are responsible for issuing specific environmental permits for electric generating plants. To that end, he recommended that the CPCN be granted subject to the following conditions: (1) the Facility shall be constructed and operated in strict accordance with applicable laws and regulations, including any environmental permitting requirements; (2) NTE will not assert that issuance of the CPCN in any way constitutes authority to exercise the power of eminent domain, and it will abstain from attempting exercise such power; and (3) the CPCN shall be subject to Commission Rule R8-63(e) and all orders, rules and regulations as are now or may hereafter be lawfully made by the Commission.

The Commission finds and concludes that the conditions recommended by witness Metz should be adopted and that they are sufficient to address the concerns raised by NC WARN. Witness Metz recommended that the CPCN granted to NTE be subject to a requirement that the Facility be constructed and operated in strict accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, including any environmental permitting requirements. In addition, the Rockingham County Planning Board has conducted a public hearing for NTE's requested special use permit for the Facility and approved the zoning permit, making specific findings of fact and placing certain conditions on the permit. Other issues, such as water use and archaeological concerns, will be dealt with by permitting requirements that apply to the Facility. The Commission has considered the testimony of witness Powers but concludes that environmental concerns regarding the Facility are appropriately addressed by the imposition of the conditions recommended by the Public Staff. In addition, the required regulatory approvals and conditions for the Facility are sufficient to address the environmental concerns raised by NC WARN and members of the public.

With respect to the other conditions recommended by Public Staff witness Metz in addition to the environmental protection conditions, the Commission concludes that these conditions also should be imposed. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that any CPCN approved in this docket should be conditioned upon NTE's abstaining from attempting to exercise any power of eminent domain under North Carolina law related to the Facility. This conclusion also incorporates the provisions of Commission Rule R8-83, which requires, among other things, that the CPCN shall be subject to revocation under specified circumstances, the CPCN must be renewed if construction is not timely commenced, and that the CPCN holder, and all future holders of the CPCN, will obtain the approval of the Commission before selling, transferring, or assigning the CPCN and/or generating facility to an unaffiliated third-party. Any other planned sale, transfer, or assignment of the CPCN and/or generating facility is subject to Commission action as appropriate pursuant to Commission Rule R8-63(e)(4).

EVIDENCE AND CONCLUSIONS FOR FINDINGS OF FACT NOS. 13-15

The evidence supporting these findings is found in the application, the exhibits attached thereto, and the testimony of NTE witness Green, NC WARN witness Powers, and Public Staff witness Metz.

NTE witness Green testified that the need for new generation in North Carolina is demonstrated in the Integrated Resource Plans (IRPs) filed by DEC and DEP in 2015. Taking into consideration projected load growth, the contributions of demand-side management and energy efficiency programs, and the planned retirements of older, less efficient plants, DEC's and DEP's 2015 IRPs concluded that 5,711 MW and 5,292 MW, respectively, of firm generating capacity would be needed to support system reliability through 2030. Collectively, the two IRPs projected a combined need for firm generating resources of over 11,000 MW through 2030.

Public Staff witness Metz testified that DEC and DEP filed more recent IRPs in September 2016, which reduced slightly some of the wholesale and retail load growth

projections, but still concluded that a significant amount of firm generating capacity was needed in the Carolinas to maintain system reliability through 2031. DEC's 2016 IRP identifies a 5,002 MW need, and DEP's IRP identifies a 5,453 need, for a combined total need of 10,455 MW of additional, firm generating capacity.

The Commission takes notice that a number of public witnesses, and consumers filing statements outside of the public hearing, suggested that the NTE plant is not needed in their respective counties. The Commission notes that the output of the proposed plant is not intended to provide retail electric service to these customers. Further, the electricity produced by the facility may be purchased by a wholesale purchaser for use outside the region of Rockingham County. As NTE stated in its application, "The output of the Facility in Rockingham County likewise will be sold at wholesale and not to any end-user or retail customers in North Carolina." Witness Green also testified that "The exact location of that combined cycle capacity, as long as it can tie into the transmission grid, is pretty - - it's indifferent as to where as long as it gets into the transmission grid." (T Vol. 2, pp. 43-44) The Commission acknowledges the concern of the public witnesses that the electricity produced by the Facility may not be needed in Rockingham County. However, the Commission's responsibility is to determine the need on a much broader basis, that being whether the Facility is needed "in the state and/or region." Commission Rule R8-63(b)(3).

Based on its assessments and its investigation of market activity by regional load-serving entities, NTE identified specific wholesale customers who are interested in purchasing the output of its proposed Facility and is currently negotiating power supply agreements with them. NTE witness Green concluded that this interest further demonstrates that there is a need for the Facility. Without it, the Facility could not be financed and would not be built. He stated that an additional benefit of the Facility is that it will be developed and financed by private companies, rather than ratepayers. Witness Green noted that a public utility's cost to construct a generating plant becomes a part of the utility's rate base, on which the utility earns an allowed rate of return. On the other hand, NTE's Facility will be privately financed. Thus, the financial risks will be borne by private investors, not by utility ratepayers, because the construction costs of the Facility will not be considered in a future determination of the rate base of any public utility under Chapter 62 of the North Carolina statutes.

On cross-examination by NC WARN, witness Green was asked a number of questions about DEC's 2010 withdrawal of a CPCN application that DEC filed in 2008 and a statement in DEC's 2008 IRP that it did not need the power. Witness Green responded that combined cycle generation is needed now in North and South Carolina, as expressed by DEC and DEP in their IRPs and as expressed by the interests of the wholesale customers with which NTE is currently negotiating. NC WARN stated in its post-hearing Brief filed December 22, 2016, that DEC's application in 2008 for a certificate to add a baseload 677-MW natural gas plant at the Rockingham County CT Station is "highly relevant" to the present certificate case. NC WARN goes on to note that just two

years after filing its application, DEC determined an additional baseload plant was not needed in the Reidsville area and summarily withdrew its application.¹

Further, on redirect witness Green testified about the increase in economic activity in the State and growth of the State's population since 2010. (See NTE Redirect Green Exhibit 1, which is a population overview prepared for the North Carolina Office of State Budget Management).² The State has been growing by about 500,000 people every five years, approximately one percent per year generally, and that rate of growth is projected to continue into the future. (T Vol.2, pp. 63-65, Redirect Green Exhibit 1) Witness Green further testified about the recession being at its height between 2008 and 2010 with no employment growth. In addition, he testified about the extensive plant closings that DEC and DEP had undertaken in the past several years, concluding that the need for supply side resources in the State of North Carolina was very different in 2016 than it was in 2008.

In response to NTE Redirect Exhibit Green No. 2, a copy of the Commission's 2015 Annual Report Regarding Long Range Needs for Expansion of Electric Generation Facilities for Service in North Carolina (2015 Annual Report), witness Green further testified that the 2015 Annual Report indicates significant increases in the peak loads for both Progress and Duke from 2012 through 2014.

The Commission is not persuaded on the present record that the decision of DEC in 2010 to withdraw its application for construction of a Rockingham County plant has any relevance to the current docket. The decision made by DEC in 2010 was unique to its IRP process and the prevailing economic conditions at that time.

NC WARN witness Powers testified in opposition to the requested CPCN, stating that there is no evidence of actual growth in peak demand or annual electricity usage in DEC's or DEP's service territories in the last decade. He further testified that the IRP peak demand forecasts relied upon by NTE witness Green are in conflict with actual DEC and DEP peak demand trends over the last decade. In addition, he testified that DEC and DEP reported anomalously high actual increases in winter peak loads in 2013 and 2014, reaching levels greater than forecast in the 2012 IRPs prepared by each utility. He stated that these have been described as polar vortex events and that there is no reason to build baseload capacity to meet a once-in-a-generation condition.

Witness Powers further testified that there was no increase in retail electricity consumption between 2007 and 2015 for DEC and no increase between 2006 and 2015 for DEP. The only area of electricity sales growth for DEC and DEP has been wholesale power sales. He stated that DEC's and DEP's forecasted load growth projections for 2016 through 2030, as set forth in their IRPs and relied upon by NTE witness Green, are wrong, and that there is no load growth for the proposed plant to meet.

13

¹ Rockingham Combustion Turbine Expansion Project Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, Docket No. E-7, Sub 861.

² A sequence of webpages demonstrating the source of this exhibit was filed on December 1, 2016, by NTE as Late-Filed Redirect Green Exhibit 1A.

On cross-examination, however, witness Powers acknowledged he undertook no independent modeling, no independent analysis of key economic factors, such as income, electricity prices, and industrial production indices, and no independent analysis or modeling of weather projections. He only looked at the last ten years of actual loads reported by DEC and DEP. He also testified on cross-examination that he did not consider population growth to be necessarily connected to load growth and that he made no assumptions about manufacturing output in North Carolina over the next 20 years.

Witness Powers further testified that the need for 500 MW of capacity of the proposed Facility can be met with existing available regional hydro or combined cycle capacity. He specifically cited the following: (1) four Smoky Mountain Hydro units near the North Carolina-Tennessee border that have a capacity of 378 MW and are connected to DEP West by a single 161-kV line from TVA to the substation at the Walters Hydro Plant in DEP West; (2) the underutilized 523-MW combined cycle merchant plant owned by Columbia Energy outside of Columbia, South Carolina; and (3) the 940-MW Tenaska combined cycle merchant plant located in Virginia, which on average has 350 to 400 MW of unused capacity.

Witness Powers presented these as examples of regionally available capacity, while admitting that he had not conducted an exhaustive investigation of available capacity in the Carolinas or neighboring states or the cost of power from these resources relative to a new combined cycle plant in Rockingham County. He nevertheless opined that he was reasonably certain that the cost of power from existing available hydro and combined cycle units would be lower than the cost of power from a new combined cycle plant serving the same load.

On cross-examination, witness Powers conceded that he had little information about the availability of these plants, their heat rates, or their cost of natural gas. In addition, he admitted that he had not evaluated whether sufficient transmission existed to import enough power from these plants into North Carolina, or what the wheeling costs would be if transmission capacity was available. He also conceded that he had not spoken to load-serving entities in Virginia, Tennessee or South Carolina about how the three examples of plants outside of North Carolina are depended upon for their own native system reliability and that he did not know if the energy and capacity from his proposed alternatives had been marketed to the customers that signed contracts with NTE for its Kings Mountain facility.

With regard to battery storage, witness Powers testified that such storage has been identified in at least one utilities commission proceeding in another state as the preferred resource over combustion turbine capacity to meet peak demand. He further stated that battery storage has the necessary characteristics to maximize the value of renewable energy resources as North Carolina transitions to higher levels of renewable power.

Public Staff witness Metz testified that with respect to the required showing of need, NTE's projection of need was based upon the IRPs of DEC and DEP, both of which show a need for additional capacity due to load growth and planned plant retirements.

Given the future need for generation resources by DEC and DEP, witness Metz testified that the proposed Facility will assist in meeting the need. He also noted that one of the benefits of NTE's proposed merchant plant is that it will be financed by private companies, rather than ratepayers, and that its construction costs will not be a component of rate base for any North Carolina electric public utility.

On cross-examination by NTE's counsel, witness Metz agreed that in its comments in Docket No. E-100, Sub 141, filed on March 2, 2015, the Public Staff found that at the time of very high winter demand on January 7, 2014, DEP's available operating reserves fell to 0.19% at the time of its actual peak, and DEC's available operating reserves fell to 0.24% at the time of its actual peak.

On rebuttal, NTE witness Green stated that NTE has identified a clear need for additional power generation in the Carolinas in the years ahead that can be met in part by NTE's proposed Facility. The identified need is consistent with the peak demand forecasts filed by DEC and DEP in their approved IRPs and in their most recent 2016 IRP filings.

Witness Green further testified that witness Powers' testimony on behalf of NC WARN is incorrect or irrelevant in a number of respects. One of these is his improper focus on electricity consumption as opposed to peak demand and the need for capacity. The NC WARN approach is fundamentally incorrect in its failure to distinguish between "capacity" and "energy," how load forecasts are prepared for, and approved by, the Commission, and how the reliability of electricity systems during peak times is assured. He further stated that the IRPs address both peak demand growth and energy usage patterns, but the focus of the IRP process is to anticipate peak demand for both summer and winter seasons and then to make sure there is adequate firm generating capacity to meet those peaks with adequate reserve margins to ensure system reliability.

In addition, witness Green testified that accurate forecasting of peak demand and the availability of firm demand-side and supply-side resources to meet that demand are critical in maintaining system reliability. Available firm generation capacity — not energy usage over specified time periods as witness Powers analyzes — determines the ability of transmission balancing areas to satisfy fluctuating loads and meet peak demand requirements (at the times of the highest demand) without interruption and with prudent reserves in the system.

Witness Green further stated that, to the extent NC WARN and witness Powers are challenging the load forecasts, reserve margins, and other aspects of the currently-approved IRPs, those challenges have already been reviewed – and litigated – by the utilities, Public Staff, and Intervenors (including NC WARN) before the Commission. The Commission expressly rejected NC WARN's load forecast arguments in its Order Approving Integrated Resource Plans and REPS Compliance Plans, issued June 26, 2015, in Docket No. E-100, Sub 141 (2015 IRP Order). Thus, witness Green testified that it is appropriate for NTE to utilize those IRPs in this proceeding and unpersuasive for witness Powers to argue that DEC's and DEP's forecasts and analyses are wrong.

The Commission asked witness Green a number of questions related to NTE's analysis of need for the Facility. Witness Green testified that in addition to the IRP, NTE is in direct conversations with specific wholesale buying entities that are currently buying wholesale power from other parties and have the opportunity to look at other methods to service their needs. He testified that these specific four or five customers are the ones that are really guiding NTE's determination of need. Witness Green also testified to the fact that the process by which NTE is identifying specific wholesale customers who are interested in purchasing the output of the proposed Facility is similar to the process that NTE went through that resulted in the contracts for the Kings Mountain Energy Center. He testified that as long as they are not bound by some existing contract, any cooperative or municipal power agency in North Carolina is a potential wholesale customer for the proposed Facility. Witness Green also testified that he depends more on what the willing customers want, in terms of capacity and energy, than he does on what Duke projects will be statewide or system-wide the growth in retail demand. In addressing the issue of need for the proposed Facility, the Commission gives substantial weight to this testimony. However, the Commission gives no weight to the testimony of witness Green relative to his focus on peak demand only. Rather, the Commission is of the opinion that all components of the IRP planning process, including energy forecasts, are important to decisions made for the benefit of wholesale and retail customers in North Carolina.

In rebuttal testimony, witness Green re-emphasized that the risks associated with a merchant plant, such as the one NTE has proposed, differ from the risks associated with the construction of a utility-owned, rate-based power plant. Specifically, the costs incurred by a utility to construct power plants become part of the utility's rate base, on which the utility earns an allowed rate of return. In contrast, a merchant plant is privately financed, and the financial risks are borne by private investors, not by utility ratepayers. NTE assumes the risk involved in obtaining sufficient wholesale purchasers for its proposed Facility and, if it does not obtain those purchasers, then NTE and its investors bear the consequences. In response to a Commission question, witness Metz confirmed that, whatever happens in terms of the business of this Facility, it has no impact on the ratepayers.

It is reasonable for the Commission to require substantial evidence of the need for the Facility in the state and/or region, as required by Rule R8-63(b)(3). Prior to the adoption of the new Rule, there was no Commission rule specifically addressing the filing requirements for merchant plants. The Commission's Order Adopting Rule in Docket No. E-100, Sub 85 discusses development of the "Statement of Need" component of the new rule. The Order states:

[T]he issue of what must be shown to establish the need for a merchant plant is one of the main concerns that prompted this proceeding to streamline certification procedures.

The Public Staff's proposed Rule R8-63(b)(1) would require that applications for certificates for merchant plants include a showing of need as follows: "A description of the need for the facility in the state and/or region, with supporting documentation. This documentation shall include, as appropriate,

either (i) contracts or preliminary agreements for the output of the facility, or (ii) information demonstrating that there is a need for the applicant's power in its intended market."

[I]t is the Commission's intent to facilitate, and not frustrate, merchant plant development. Given the present statutory framework, the Commission is not in a position to abandon any showing of need or to create a presumption of need. However, the Commission believes that a flexible standard for the showing of need is appropriate. The Commission adopts the first sentence of the Public Staff's recommendation but will not adopt the second sentence.³

In weighing the evidence regarding the need for the NTE Facility, the Commission is guided by three main factors: (1) the standard of need for a merchant plant is different from the standard of need for a public utility electric generation facility; (2) DEC's and DEP's IRPs project the need for significant electric load growth in the Carolinas; and (3) NTE has demonstrated expertise in accurately evaluating wholesale market needs and negotiating with wholesale buyers to meet those needs.

With respect to the applicable standard of need, G.S. 62-110.1 is intended to provide for the orderly expansion of electric generating capacity in order to create a reliable and economical power supply and to avoid the costly overbuilding of generation resources. State ex rel. Utils. Comm'n v. High Rock Lake Ass'n, 37 N.C. App. 138, 141, 245 S.E.2d 787, 790, disc. rev. denied, 295 N.C. 646, 248 S.E.2d 257 (1978). One of the main purposes of avoiding overbuilding is to protect retail ratepayers from paying for unneeded electric generating capacity. In addition, the Commission is concerned about other potential adverse consequences of overbuilding. For example, the Commission is not going to certificate a facility that is likely to sit idle, litter the landscape and create unnecessary environmental impacts. One of the protections from such consequences of overbuilding is the need assessment conducted by the Commission. Further, the Commission must keep in mind that "The standard of public convenience and necessity is relative or elastic, rather than abstract or absolute, and the facts of each case must be considered. State ex rel. Utils. Comm'n v. Casey, 245 N.C. 297, 302, 96 S.E.2d 8, 13 (1957).

In its post-hearing Brief, NC WARN relies on the <u>High Rock Lake</u> case to argue that the Commission should deny NTE's application because NTE "is clearly overbuilding a redundant and unneeded plant that will be unreasonably costly to ratepayers." NC WARN's Brief, at p. 4. In addition, NC WARN asserts that DEC's ratepayers will in all likelihood be forced to pay for more unneeded generation for backup power to NTE.

Public Staff witness Metz testified that the construction costs of the Facility will not be a component of rate base for any North Carolina electric public utility. Commissioner Patterson asked witness Metz "Whatever happens in terms of the business of this plant being proposed, it has no impact on the ratepayers of North Carolina, does it?" Witness Metz responded "It has no impact on the ratepayers." (T Vol. 2, p. 177-178) NC WARN

³ In the Matter of Investigation of Certification Requirements for New Generating Capacity in North Carolina, Docket No. E-100, Sub 85, Order Adopting Rule, at pp. 6-7 (May 21, 2001).

stated in its Brief that witness Metz did not provide the evidentiary basis for his conclusory statement or any detail as to why he thought ratepayers would not have to pay for additional generation to back up the NTE plant during normal maintenance outages or emergency outages. The Commission, however, accepts the testimony of witness Green that NTE through its energy manager will be responsible for fulfilling the contract requirements associated with the proposed Facility, not DEC or DEP. Further, the Commission notes that there is no evidence that DEC would have a contractual or legal obligation to provide backup power to the Facility. In addition, if DEC enters into a contract to provide backup power to the Facility, DEC's retail ratepayers will be protected from potential adverse consequences of the contract by two main factors. First, the contract would be at DEC's incremental costs to serve the Facility, thus avoiding any subsidization of the contract costs by DEC's retail ratepayers.4 Second, DEC would be required to ensure that it has reliable power to serve its retail ratepayers before providing backup power to the Facility.⁵ Therefore, the Commission agrees with witness Metz's position that there is no rate impact, risk of service degradation, or risk of overbuilding being assumed by North Carolina's retail ratepayers.

In addition, as NC WARN acknowledges in its Brief, one of the Facility's goals is to sell power to current DEC, and possibly DEP, wholesale customers at a lower cost than those wholesale customers can get from DEC or DEP. One of the purposes of Commission Rule R8-63 is to streamline the CPCN process for merchant plants so that merchant plants will provide wholesale power alternatives that boost wholesale competition. The Commission expects that if an existing DEC wholesale customer enters into a contract with NTE, then that customer has indeed identified benefits associated with purchasing its power from the proposed Facility. In that circumstance, the goal of wholesale competition is advanced.

With respect to DEC's and DEP's IRPs, the Commission gives substantial weight to the testimony of Public Staff witness Metz that the IRPs demonstrate the need for a significant amount of firm generating capacity in the Carolinas to maintain system reliability through 2031. Witness Metz noted that DEC's 2016 IRP identifies a 5,002 MW need, and DEP's identifies a 5,453 need, for a combined total need of 10,455 MW of additional, firm generating capacity.

Finally, the Commission gives substantial weight to NTE's evidence, based on its assessments and its investigation of market activity by regional load-serving entities, that NTE has identified specific wholesale customers in the Carolinas who are interested in purchasing the output of its proposed Facility. NTE is currently negotiating power sale agreements with them. Further, the Commission gives some weight to the testimony of NTE witness Green that without agreements, the Facility cannot be financed and will not be built. In addition, the Commission gives significant weight to the testimony of NTE witness Green concerning NTE's success in obtaining wholesale buyers for the electricity

⁴ Order on Advance Notice and Joint Petition for Declaratory Ruling, Docket No. E-7, Sub 858 (March 30, 2009).

⁵ Order Approving Merger Subject to Regulatory Conditions and Code of Conduct, Regulatory Condition No. 3.6(b), Docket Nos. E-2, Sub 1095, E-7, Sub 1100 and G-9, Sub 682 (September 29, 2016).

to be produced at its Kings Mountain Energy Center. This record of success is some indication of NTE's ability to accurately forecast need and to negotiate wholesale contracts to meet that need. The Commission concludes that the market interest evidenced by witness Green's testimony, along with the capacity needs demonstrated by DEC's and DEP's IRPs, is sufficient to establish that there is a need for the Facility. Further, the Commission's assessment of the need for this Facility is made in the context of the Facility as a merchant plant, developed and financed by private companies, rather than ratepayers, and that the construction costs of the Facility will not be considered in a future determination of the rate base of any public utility. Unlike a public utility, NTE is a wholesale generator, has no captive customers, and has no authorized rate of return.

NC WARN's evidence as to alternative merchant plants is unpersuasive, as it is based upon general observations about availability, without specific inquiry or analysis. In contrast, witness Green testified that, based on his personal conversations with the wholesale customers of the Kings Mountain Energy Center and the prospective customers of the Facility, the wholesale customers are fully aware of other merchant facilities in the region. Obviously, if such alternative facilities had adequate uncommitted capacity, favorable economic pricing, and their electricity could be wheeled with reliable transmission interconnection, these customers would not be interested in NTE's proposed project.

Similarly, NC WARN's evidence as to the availability of battery storage as an alternative is not substantial or persuasive.

Based on the evidence, the Commission concludes that NTE has made a sufficient showing of need for its proposed 500-MW merchant electric generating plant in Rockingham County. The Commission also concludes that the proposed Facility will likely provide electric reliability benefits that further support the grant of the CPCN in this proceeding. Therefore, the Commission finds and concludes that the public convenience and necessity will be served by granting NTE a CPCN for construction of the proposed combined cycle generating Facility, subject to the conditions set forth herein.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

- 1. That a certificate of public convenience and necessity shall be, and is hereby, issued to NTE Carolinas II, LLC, for the construction of a 500-MW natural gas-fueled combined cycle merchant plant generating facility, associated equipment, and ancillary transmission facilities.
- 2. That Appendix A hereto shall constitute the certificate of public convenience and necessity issued for the Facility.
- 3. That the certificate of public convenience and necessity is conditioned upon the requirement that the Facility be constructed and operated in strict accordance with applicable laws and regulations, including any local zoning and environmental permitting requirements.

- 4. That the certificate of public convenience and necessity does not and is not intended to confer the power of eminent domain under North Carolina law for the construction of the approximately 500-MW natural gas-fueled combined cycle generating facility certified herein, and NTE and its successors shall abstain from attempting to exercise eminent domain under North Carolina law in relation to the generating facility authorized by this certificate.
- 5. That the certificate of public convenience and necessity is conditioned upon a requirement that the certificate holder, including all future holders of the certificate, obtain the approval of the Commission before selling, transferring, or assigning the certificate and/or generating facility to an unaffiliated third-party, and that any other planned sale, transfer, or assignment of the certificate and/or generating facility shall be subject to Commission action as appropriate pursuant to Commission Rule R8-63(e)(4).
- 6. That the certificate of public convenience and necessity is subject to the conditions set forth in Commission Rule R8-63(e) and (f) as stated in the express language of the attached certificate.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 19th day of January, 2017.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Linnetta Threatt, Acting Deputy Clerk

Linetta Skrutt

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. EMP-92, SUB 0

NTE Carolinas II, LLC 24 Cathedral Place, Suite 300 St. Augustine, Florida 32084

is hereby issued this

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY PURSUANT TO G.S. 62-110.1

for construction of a 500-MW natural gas-fueled combined cycle merchant plant generating facility to be commenced within three years of this Certificate, consisting of one combustion turbine, one heat recovery steam generator, and one steam turbine generator and ancillary transmission facilities

located

in Rockingham County, North Carolina, between Highway 65 to the east and New Lebanon Church Road to the west.

subject to the following conditions: (a) NTE Carolinas, II, LLC, will construct and operate the generating facility in strict accordance with applicable laws and regulations, including any local zoning and environmental permitting requirements; (b) NTE Carolinas, II, LLC will not assert that the issuance of the certificate in any way constitutes authority to exercise any power of eminent domain, and it will abstain from attempting to exercise such power; (c) NTE Carolinas II, LLC, will obtain approval of the Commission before selling, transferring, or assigning the certificate and/or generating facility; (d) this certificate is subject to Commission Rule R8-63 and all orders, rules, regulations and conditions as are now or may hereafter be lawfully made by the Commission.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

This the 19th day of January, 2017.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Linnetta Threatt, Acting Deputy Clerk

Linetta Shrutt

EXHIBIT 2

OATT SERVICE AGREEMENT NO. 491 UNDER TARIFF VOLUME NO. 4

LARGE GENERATOR INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN

DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC (TRANSMISSION PROVIDER)
AND

NTE CAROLINAS II, LLC (INTERCONNECTION CUSTOMER)

STANDARD LARGE GENERATOR INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT (LGIA)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| Recitals |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Article 1. Definitions |
| Article 2. Effective Date, Term, and Termination |
| 2.1 Effective Date |
| 2.2 Term of Agreement |
| 2.3 Termination Procedures |
| 2.3.1 Written Notice |
| 2.3.2 Default |
| 2.4 Termination Costs |
| 2.5 Disconnection |
| 2.6 Survival |
| Article 3. Regulatory Filings |
| 3.1 Filing |
| Article 4. Scope of Service |
| 4.1 Interconnection Product Options |
| 4.1.1 Energy Resource Interconnection Service |
| 4.1.1.1 The Product |
| 4.1.1.2 Transmission Delivery Service Implications |
| 4.1.2 Network Resource Interconnection Service |
| 4.1.2.1 The Product |
| 4.1.2.2 Transmission Delivery Service Implications |
| 4.2 Provision of Service |
| 4.3 Performance Standards |
| 4.4 No Transmission Delivery Service |
| 4.5 Interconnection Customer Provided Services |
| Article 5. Interconnection Facilities Engineering, Procurement, & Construction |
| 5.1 Options |
| 5.1.1 Standard Option |
| 5.1.2 Alternate Option |
| 5.1.3 Option to Build |
| 5.1.4 Negotiated Option |
| 5.2 General Conditions Applicable to Option to Build |

| 5.3 | Liquidated Damages |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5.4 | Power System Stabilizers |
| 5.5 | Equipment Procurement |
| 5.6 | Construction Commencement |
| 5.7 | Work Progress |
| 5.8 | Information Exchange |
| | Limited Operation |
| 5.10 | Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities ('ICIF') |
| | 5.10.1 Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facility Specifications |
| | 5.10.2 Transmission Provider's Review |
| | 5.10.3 ICIF Construction |
| 5.11 | Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities Construction |
| | Access Rights |
| | Lands of Other Property Owners |
| | Permits |
| | Early Construction of Base Case Facilities |
| | Suspension |
| 5.17 | Taxes |
| | 5.17.1 Interconnection Customer Payments Not Taxable |
| | 5.17.2 Representations and Covenants |
| | 5.17.3 Indemnification for the Cost Consequences of Current Tax Liability Imposed Upon the Transmission Provider |
| | 5.17.4 Tax Gross-Up Amount |
| | 5.17.5 Private Letter Ruling or Change or Clarification of Law |
| | 5.17.6 Subsequent Taxable Events |
| | 5.17.7 Contests |
| | 5.17.8 Refund |
| | 5.17.9 Taxes Other Than Income Taxes |
| | 5.17.10 Transmission Owners Who Are Not Transmission Providers |
| 5.18 | Tax Status |
| 5.19 | Modification |
| | 5.19.1 General |
| | 5.19.2 Standards |
| | 5.19.3 Modification Costs |
| Article 6. T | esting and Inspection |
| | Pre-Commercial Operation Date Testing and Modifications |

| 6.2 | Post-Commercial Operation Date Testing and Modifications |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 6.3 | Right to Observe Testing |
| 6.4 | Right to Inspect |
| Article 7. N | Metering |
| 7.1 | General |
| 7.2 | Check Meters |
| 7.3 | Standards |
| 7.4 | Testing of Metering Equipment |
| | Metering Data |
| | Communications |
| 8.1 | Interconnection Customer Obligations |
| 8.2 | Remote Terminal Unit |
| | No Annexation |
| | Provision of Data from a Variable Energy Resource |
| | General |
| 9.1 | Control Area Notification |
| 9.3 | Transmission Provider Obligations |
| 9.4 | Interconnection Customer Obligations |
| 9.5 | Start-Up and Synchronization |
| 9.6 | Reactive Power |
| | 9.6.1 Power Factor Design Criteria |
| , | 9.6.1.1 Synchronous Generation |
| | 9.6.1.2 Non-Synchronous Generation |
| | 9.6.2 Voltage Schedules |
| | 9.6.2.1 Governors and Regulators |
| | 9.6.3 Payment for Reactive Power |
| 9.7 | Outages and Interruptions |
| | 9.7.1 Outages |
| | 9.7.1.1 Outage Authority and Coordination |
| | 9.7.1.2 Outage Schedules |
| | 9.7.1.3 Outage Restoration |
| | 9.7.2 Interruption of Service |
| | 9.7.3 Under-Frequency and Over Frequency Conditions |
| | |
| | 9.7.4 System Protection and Other Control Requirements |
| | 9 7 4 1 System Protection Facilities |

| 9.7.5 Requirements for Protection |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9.7.6 Power Quality |
| 9.8 Switching and Tagging Rules |
| 9.9 Use of Interconnection Facilities by Third Parties |
| 9.9.1 Purpose of Interconnection Facilities |
| 9.9.2 Third Party Users |
| 9.10 Disturbance Analysis Data Exchange |
| Article 10. Maintenance |
| 10.1 Transmission Provider Obligations |
| 10.2 Interconnection Customer Obligations |
| 10.3 Coordination |
| 10.4 Secondary Systems |
| 10.5 Operating and Maintenance Expenses |
| Article 11. Performance Obligation |
| 11.1 Interconnection Customer Interconnection Facilities |
| 11.2 Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities |
| 11.3 Network Upgrades and Distribution Upgrades |
| 11.4 Transmission Credits |
| 11.4.1 Repayment of Amounts Advanced for Network Upgrades |
| 11.4.2 Special Provision for Affected Systems |
| 11.5 Provision of Security |
| 11.6 Interconnection Customer Compensation |
| 11.6.1 Interconnection Customer Compensation for Actions During Emergency Condition |
| Article 12. Invoice |
| 12.1 General |
| 12.2 Final Invoice |
| 12.3 Payment |
| 12.4 Disputes |
| Article 13. Emergencies |
| 13.1 Definition |
| 13.2 Obligations |
| 13.3 Notice |
| 13.4 Immediate Action |
| 13.5 Transmission Provider Authority |
| 13.5.1 General |
| 13.5.2 Reduction and Disconnection |

| 13.6 Interconnection Customer Authority |
|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 13.7 Limited Liability |
| Article 14. Regulatory Requirements and Governing Law |
| 14.1 Regulatory Requirements |
| 14.2 Governing Law |
| Article 15. Notices |
| 15.1 General |
| 15.2 Billings and Payments |
| 15.3 Alternative Forms of Notice |
| 15.4 Operations and Maintenance Notice |
| Article 16. Force Majeure |
| Article 17. Default |
| 17.1 Default |
| 17.1.1 General |
| 17.1.2 Right to Terminate |
| Article 18. Indemnity, Consequential Damages and Insurance |
| 18.1 Indemnity |
| 18.1.1 Indemnified Person |
| 18.1.2 Indemnifying Party |
| 18.1.3 Indemnity Procedures |
| 18.2 Consequential Damages |
| 18.3 Insurance |
| Article 19. Assignment |
| Article 20. Severability |
| Article 21. Comparability |
| Article 22. Confidentiality |
| 22.1 Confidentiality |
| 22.1.1 Term |
| 22.1.2 Scope |
| 22.1.3 Release of Confidential Information |
| 22.1.4 Rights |
| 22.1.5 No Warranties |
| 22.1.6 Standard of Care |
| 22.1.7 Order of Disclosure |
| 22.1.8 Termination of Agreement |
| 22.1.9 Remedies |

| 22.1.10 Disclosure to FERC, its Staff, or a State |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Article 23. Environmental Releases |
| Article 24. Information Requirements |
| 24.1 Information Acquisition |
| 24.2 Information Submission by Transmission Provider |
| 24.3 Updated Information Submission by Interconnection Customer |
| 24.4 Information Supplementation |
| Article 25. Information Access and Audit Rights |
| 25.1 Information Access |
| 25.2 Reporting of Non-Force Majeure Events |
| 25.3 Audit Rights |
| 25.4 Audit Rights Periods |
| 25.4.1 Audit Rights Period for Construction-Related Accounts and Records |
| 25.4.2 Audit Rights Period for All Other Accounts and Records |
| 25.5 Audit Results |
| Article 26. Subcontractors |
| 26.1 General |
| 26.2 Responsibility of Principal |
| 26.3 No Limitation by Insurance |
| Article 27. Disputes |
| 27.1 Submission |
| 27.2 External Arbitration Procedures |
| 27.3 Arbitration Decisions |
| 27.4 Costs |
| Article 28. Representations, Warranties, and Covenants |
| 28.1 General |
| 28.1.1 Good Standing |
| 28.1.2 Authority |
| 28.1.3 No Conflict |
| 28.1.4 Consent and Approval |
| Article 29. Joint Operating Committee |
| Article 30. Miscellaneous |
| 30.1 Binding Effect |
| 30.2 Conflicts |
| 30.3 Rules of Interpretation |
| 30.4 Entire Agreement |
| 30.5. No Third Party Reneficiaries |

| 30.6 | Waiver |
|--------|-----------------------------|
| | Headings |
| | Multiple Counterparts |
| | Amendment |
| | Modification by the Parties |
| | Reservation of Rights |
| | No Partnership |
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STANDARD LARGE GENERATOR INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

THIS STANDARD LARGE GENERATOR INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

("Agreement") is made and entered into this 8 day of November, 2017, by and between NTE Carolinas II, LLC, a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State/Commonwealth of Delaware ("Interconnection Customer" with a Large Generating Facility), and Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State/Commonwealth of North Carolina ("Transmission Provider and/or Transmission Owner"). Interconnection Customer and Transmission Provider each may be referred to as a "Party" or collectively as the "Parties."

Recitals

WHEREAS, Transmission Provider operates the Transmission System; and

WHEREAS, Interconnection Customer intends to own, lease and/or control and operate the Generating Facility identified as a Large Generating Facility in Appendix C to this Agreement; and,

WHEREAS, Interconnection Customer and Transmission Provider have agreed to enter into this Agreement for the purpose of interconnecting the Large Generating Facility with the Transmission System;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of and subject to the mutual covenants contained herein, it is agreed:

When used in this Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement, terms with initial capitalization that are not defined in Article 1 shall have the meanings specified in the Article in which they are used or the Open Access Transmission Tariff (Tariff).

Article 1. Definitions

Adverse System Impact shall mean the negative effects due to technical or operational limits on conductors or equipment being exceeded that may compromise the safety and reliability of the electric system.

Affected System shall mean an electric system other than the Transmission Provider's Transmission System that may be affected by the proposed interconnection.

Affected System Operator shall mean the entity that operates an Affected System.

Affiliate shall mean, with respect to a corporation, partnership or other entity, each such other corporation, partnership or other entity that directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, such corporation, partnership or other entity.

Ancillary Services shall mean those services that are necessary to support the transmission of capacity and energy from resources to loads while maintaining reliable operation of the Transmission Provider's Transmission System in accordance with Good Utility Practice.

Applicable Laws and Regulations shall mean all duly promulgated applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations, rules, ordinances, codes, decrees, judgments, directives, or judicial or administrative orders, permits and other duly authorized actions of any Governmental Authority.

Applicable Reliability Council shall mean the reliability council applicable to the Transmission System to which the Generating Facility is directly interconnected.

Applicable Reliability Standards shall mean the requirements and guidelines of NERC, the Applicable Reliability Council, and the Control Area of the Transmission System to which the Generating Facility is directly interconnected.

Base Case shall mean the base case power flow, short circuit, and stability data bases used for the Interconnection Studies by the Transmission Provider or Interconnection Customer.

Breach shall mean the failure of a Party to perform or observe any material term or condition of the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement.

Breaching Party shall mean a Party that is in Breach of the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement.

Business Day shall mean Monday through Friday, excluding Federal Holidays.

Calendar Day shall mean any day including Saturday, Sunday or a Federal Holiday.

Clustering shall mean the process whereby a group of Interconnection Requests is studied together, instead of serially, for the purpose of conducting the Interconnection System Impact Study.

Commercial Operation shall mean the status of a Generating Facility that has commenced generating electricity for sale, excluding electricity generated during Trial Operation.

Commercial Operation Date of a unit shall mean the date on which the Generating Facility commences Commercial Operation as agreed to by the Parties pursuant to Appendix E to the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement.

Confidential Information shall mean any confidential, proprietary or trade secret information of a plan, specification, pattern, procedure, design, device, list, concept, policy or compilation relating to the present or planned business of a Party, which is designated as confidential by the Party supplying the information, whether conveyed orally, electronically, in writing, through inspection, or otherwise.

Control Area shall mean an electrical system or systems bounded by interconnection metering and telemetry, capable of controlling generation to maintain its interchange schedule with other Control Areas and contributing to frequency regulation of the interconnection. A Control Area must be certified by the Applicable Reliability Council.

Default shall mean the failure of a Breaching Party to cure its Breach in accordance with Article 17 of the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement.

Dispute Resolution shall mean the procedure for resolution of a dispute between the Parties in which they will first attempt to resolve the dispute on an informal basis.

Distribution System shall mean the Transmission Provider's facilities and equipment used to transmit electricity to ultimate usage points such as homes and industries directly from nearby generators or from interchanges with higher voltage transmission networks which transport bulk power over longer distances. The voltage levels at which distribution systems operate differ among areas.

Distribution Upgrades shall mean the additions, modifications, and upgrades to the Transmission Provider's Distribution System at or beyond the Point of Interconnection to facilitate interconnection of the Generating Facility and render the transmission service necessary to effect Interconnection Customer's wholesale sale of electricity in interstate commerce. Distribution Upgrades do not include Interconnection Facilities.

Effective Date shall mean the date on which the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement becomes effective upon execution by the Parties subject to acceptance by FERC, or if filed unexecuted, upon the date specified by FERC.

Emergency Condition shall mean a condition or situation: (1) that in the judgment of the Party making the claim is imminently likely to endanger life or property; or (2) that, in the case of a Transmission Provider, is imminently likely (as determined in a non-discriminatory manner) to cause a material adverse effect on the security of, or damage to Transmission Provider's Transmission System, Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities or the electric systems of others to which the Transmission Provider's Transmission System is directly connected; or (3) that, in the case of Interconnection Customer, is imminently likely (as determined in a non-discriminatory manner) to cause a material adverse effect on the security of, or damage to, the Generating Facility or Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities. System restoration and black start shall be considered Emergency Conditions; provided, that Interconnection Customer is not obligated by the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement to possess black start capability.

Energy Resource Interconnection Service shall mean an Interconnection Service that allows the Interconnection Customer to connect its Generating Facility to the Transmission Provider's Transmission System to be eligible to deliver the Generating Facility's electric output using the existing firm or nonfirm capacity of the Transmission Provider's Transmission System on an as available basis. Energy Resource Interconnection Service in and of itself does not convey transmission service.

Engineering & Procurement (E&P) Agreement shall mean an agreement that authorizes the Transmission Provider to begin engineering and procurement of long lead-time items necessary for the establishment of the interconnection in order to advance the implementation of the Interconnection Request.

Environmental Law shall mean Applicable Laws or Regulations relating to pollution or protection of the environment or natural resources.

Federal Power Act shall mean the Federal Power Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. §§ 791a et seq.

FERC shall mean the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) or its successor.

Force Majeure shall mean any act of God, labor disturbance, act of the public enemy, war, insurrection, riot, fire, storm or flood, explosion, breakage or accident to machinery or equipment, any order, regulation or restriction imposed by governmental, military or lawfully established civilian authorities, or any other cause beyond a Party's control. A Force Majeure event does not include acts of negligence or intentional wrongdoing by the Party claiming Force Majeure.

Generating Facility shall mean Interconnection Customer's device for the production of electricity identified in the Interconnection Request, but shall not include the Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities.

Generating Facility Capacity shall mean the net capacity of the Generating Facility and the aggregate net capacity of the Generating Facility where it includes multiple energy production devices.

Good Utility Practice shall mean any of the practices, methods and acts engaged in or approved by a significant portion of the electric industry during the relevant time period, or any of the practices, methods and acts which, in the exercise of reasonable judgment in light of the facts known at the time the decision was made, could have been expected to accomplish the desired result at a reasonable cost consistent with good business practices, reliability, safety and expedition. Good Utility Practice is not intended to be limited to the optimum practice, method, or act to the exclusion of all others, but rather to be acceptable practices, methods, or acts generally accepted in the region.

Governmental Authority shall mean any federal, state, local or other governmental regulatory or administrative agency, court, commission, department, board, or other governmental subdivision, legislature, rulemaking board, tribunal, or other governmental authority having jurisdiction over the Parties, their respective facilities, or the respective services they provide, and exercising or entitled to exercise any administrative, executive, police, or taxing authority or power; provided, however, that such term does not include Interconnection Customer, Transmission Provider, or any Affiliate thereof.

Hazardous Substances shall mean any chemicals, materials or substances defined as or included in the definition of "hazardous substances," "hazardous wastes," "hazardous materials,"

"hazardous constituents," "restricted hazardous materials," "extremely hazardous substances," "toxic substances," "radioactive substances," "contaminants," "pollutants," "toxic pollutants" or words of similar meaning and regulatory effect under any applicable Environmental Law, or any other chemical, material or substance, exposure to which is prohibited, limited or regulated by any applicable Environmental Law.

Initial Synchronization Date shall mean the date upon which the Generating Facility is initially synchronized and upon which Trial Operation begins.

In-Service Date shall mean the date upon which the Interconnection Customer reasonably expects it will be ready to begin use of the Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities to obtain back feed power.

Interconnection Customer shall mean any entity, including the Transmission Provider, Transmission Owner or any of the Affiliates or subsidiaries of either, that proposes to interconnect its Generating Facility with the Transmission Provider's Transmission System.

Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities shall mean all facilities and equipment, as identified in Appendix A of the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement, that are located between the Generating Facility and the Point of Change of Ownership, including any modification, addition, or upgrades to such facilities and equipment necessary to physically and electrically interconnect the Generating Facility to the Transmission Provider's Transmission System. Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities are sole use facilities.

Interconnection Facilities shall mean the Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and the Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities. Collectively, Interconnection Facilities include all facilities and equipment between the Generating Facility and the Point of Interconnection, including any modification, additions or upgrades that are necessary to physically and electrically interconnect the Generating Facility to the Transmission Provider's Transmission System. Interconnection Facilities are sole use facilities and shall not include Distribution Upgrades, Stand Alone Network Upgrades or Network Upgrades.

Interconnection Facilities Study shall mean a study conducted by the Transmission Provider or a third party consultant for the Interconnection Customer to determine a list of facilities (including Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades as identified in the Interconnection System Impact Study), the cost of those facilities, and the time required to interconnect the Generating Facility with the Transmission Provider's Transmission System. The scope of the study is defined in Section 8 of the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Procedures.

Interconnection Facilities Study Agreement shall mean the form of agreement contained in Appendix 4 of the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Procedures for conducting the Interconnection Facilities Study.

Interconnection Feasibility Study shall mean a preliminary evaluation of the system impact and cost of interconnecting the Generating Facility to the Transmission Provider's

Transmission System, the scope of which is described in Section 6 of the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Procedures.

Interconnection Feasibility Study Agreement shall mean the form of agreement contained in Appendix 2 of the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Procedures for conducting the Interconnection Feasibility Study.

Interconnection Request shall mean an Interconnection Customer's request, in the form of Appendix 1 to the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Procedures, in accordance with the Tariff, to interconnect a new Generating Facility, or to increase the capacity of, or make a Material Modification to the operating characteristics of, an existing Generating Facility that is interconnected with the Transmission Provider's Transmission System.

Interconnection Service shall mean the service provided by the Transmission Provider associated with interconnecting the Interconnection Customer's Generating Facility to the Transmission Provider's Transmission System and enabling it to receive electric energy and capacity from the Generating Facility at the Point of Interconnection, pursuant to the terms of the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement and, if applicable, the Transmission Provider's Tariff.

Interconnection Study shall mean any of the following studies: the Interconnection Feasibility Study, the Interconnection System Impact Study, and the Interconnection Facilities Study described in the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Procedures.

Interconnection System Impact Study shall mean an engineering study that evaluates the impact of the proposed interconnection on the safety and reliability of Transmission Provider's Transmission System and, if applicable, an Affected System. The study shall identify and detail the system impacts that would result if the Generating Facility were interconnected without project modifications or system modifications, focusing on the Adverse System Impacts identified in the Interconnection Feasibility Study, or to study potential impacts, including but not limited to those identified in the Scoping Meeting as described in the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Procedures.

Interconnection System Impact Study Agreement shall mean the form of agreement contained in Appendix 3 of the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Procedures for conducting the Interconnection System Impact Study.

IRS shall mean the Internal Revenue Service.

Joint Operating Committee shall be a group made up of representatives from Interconnection Customers and the Transmission Provider to coordinate operating and technical considerations of Interconnection Service.

Large Generating Facility shall mean a Generating Facility having a Generating Facility Capacity of more than 20 MW.

Loss shall mean any and all losses relating to injury to or death of any person or damage to property, demand, suits, recoveries, costs and expenses, court costs, attorney fees, and all

other obligations by or to third parties, arising out of or resulting from the other Party's performance, or non-performance of its obligations under the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement on behalf of the indemnifying Party, except in cases of gross negligence or intentional wrongdoing by the indemnifying Party.

Material Modification shall mean those modifications that have a material impact on the cost or timing of any Interconnection Request with a later queue priority date.

Metering Equipment shall mean all metering equipment installed or to be installed at the Generating Facility pursuant to the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement at the metering points, including but not limited to instrument transformers, MWh-meters, data acquisition equipment, transducers, remote terminal unit, communications equipment, phone lines, and fiber optics.

NERC shall mean the North American Electric Reliability Council or its successor organization.

Network Resource shall mean any designated generating resource owned, purchased, or leased by a Network Customer under the Network Integration Transmission Service Tariff. Network Resources do not include any resource, or any portion thereof, that is committed for sale to third parties or otherwise cannot be called upon to meet the Network Customer's Network Load on a non-interruptible basis.

Network Resource Interconnection Service shall mean an Interconnection Service that allows the Interconnection Customer to integrate its Large Generating Facility with the Transmission Provider's Transmission System (1) in a manner comparable to that in which the Transmission Provider integrates its generating facilities to serve native load customers; or (2) in an RTO or ISO with market based congestion management, in the same manner as Network Resources. Network Resource Interconnection Service in and of itself does not convey transmission service.

Network Upgrades shall mean the additions, modifications, and upgrades to the Transmission Provider's Transmission System required at or beyond the point at which the Interconnection Facilities connect to the Transmission Provider's Transmission System to accommodate the interconnection of the Large Generating Facility to the Transmission Provider's Transmission System.

Notice of Dispute shall mean a written notice of a dispute or claim that arises out of or in connection with the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement or its performance.

Optional Interconnection Study shall mean a sensitivity analysis based on assumptions specified by the Interconnection Customer in the Optional Interconnection Study Agreement.

Optional Interconnection Study Agreement shall mean the form of agreement contained in Appendix 5 of the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Procedures for conducting the Optional Interconnection Study.

Party or Parties shall mean Transmission Provider, Transmission Owner, Interconnection Customer or any combination of the above.

Point of Change of Ownership shall mean the point, as set forth in Appendix A to the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement, where the Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities connect to the Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities.

Point of Interconnection shall mean the point, as set forth in Appendix A to the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement, where the Interconnection Facilities connect to the Transmission Provider's Transmission System.

Queue Position shall mean the order of a valid Interconnection Request, relative to all other pending valid Interconnection Requests, that is established based upon the date and time of receipt of the valid Interconnection Request by the Transmission Provider.

Reasonable Efforts shall mean, with respect to an action required to be attempted or taken by a Party under the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement, efforts that are timely and consistent with Good Utility Practice and are otherwise substantially equivalent to those a Party would use to protect its own interests.

Scoping Meeting shall mean the meeting between representatives of the Interconnection Customer and Transmission Provider conducted for the purpose of discussing alternative interconnection options, to exchange information including any transmission data and earlier study evaluations that would be reasonably expected to impact such interconnection options, to analyze such information, and to determine the potential feasible Points of Interconnection.

Site Control shall mean documentation reasonably demonstrating: (1) ownership of, a leasehold interest in, or a right to develop a site for the purpose of constructing the Generating Facility; (2) an option to purchase or acquire a leasehold site for such purpose; or (3) an exclusivity or other business relationship between Interconnection Customer and the entity having the right to sell, lease or grant Interconnection Customer the right to possess or occupy a site for such purpose.

Small Generating Facility shall mean a Generating Facility that has a Generating Facility Capacity of no more than 20 MW.

Stand Alone Network Upgrades shall mean Network Upgrades that an Interconnection Customer may construct without affecting day-to-day operations of the Transmission System during their construction. Both the Transmission Provider and the Interconnection Customer must agree as to what constitutes Stand Alone Network Upgrades and identify them in Appendix A to the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement.

Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement (LGIA) shall mean the form of interconnection agreement applicable to an Interconnection Request pertaining to a Large Generating Facility that is included in the Transmission Provider's Tariff.

Standard Large Generator Interconnection Procedures (LGIP) shall mean the interconnection procedures applicable to an Interconnection Request pertaining to a Large Generating Facility that are included in the Transmission Provider's Tariff.

System Protection Facilities shall mean the equipment, including necessary protection signal communications equipment, required to protect (1) the Transmission Provider's Transmission System from faults or other electrical disturbances occurring at the Generating Facility and (2) the Generating Facility from faults or other electrical system disturbances occurring on the Transmission Provider's Transmission System or on other delivery systems or other generating systems to which the Transmission Provider's Transmission System is directly connected.

Tariff shall mean the Transmission Provider's Tariff through which open access transmission service and Interconnection Service are offered, as filed with FERC, and as amended or supplemented from time to time, or any successor tariff.

Transmission Owner shall mean an entity that owns, leases or otherwise possesses an interest in the portion of the Transmission System at the Point of Interconnection and may be a Party to the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement to the extent necessary.

Transmission Provider shall mean the public utility (or its designated agent) that owns, controls, or operates transmission or distribution facilities used for the transmission of electricity in interstate commerce and provides transmission service under the Tariff. The term Transmission Provider should be read to include the Transmission Owner when the Transmission Owner is separate from the Transmission Provider.

Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities shall mean all facilities and equipment owned, controlled or operated by the Transmission Provider from the Point of Change of Ownership to the Point of Interconnection as identified in Appendix A to the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement, including any modifications, additions or upgrades to such facilities and equipment. Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities are sole use facilities and shall not include Distribution Upgrades, Stand Alone Network Upgrades or Network Upgrades.

Transmission System shall mean the facilities owned, controlled or operated by the Transmission Provider or Transmission Owner that are used to provide transmission service under the Tariff.

Trial Operation shall mean the period during which Interconnection Customer is engaged in on-site test operations and commissioning of the Generating Facility prior to Commercial Operation.

Variable Energy Resource shall mean a device for the production of electricity that is characterized by an energy source that: (1) is renewable; (2) cannot be stored by the facility owner or operator; and (3) has variability that is beyond the control of the facility owner or operator.

Article 2. Effective Date, Term, and Termination

- 2.1 Effective Date. This LGIA shall become effective upon execution by the Parties subject to acceptance by FERC (if applicable), or if filed unexecuted, upon the date specified by FERC. Transmission Provider shall promptly file this LGIA with FERC upon execution in accordance with Article 3.1, if required.
- **2.2 Term of Agreement.** Subject to the provisions of Article 2.3, this LGIA shall remain in effect for a period of ten (10) years from the Effective Date or such other longer period as Interconnection Customer may request (Term to be specified in individual agreements) and shall be automatically renewed for each successive one-year period thereafter.

2.3 Termination Procedures.

- **2.3.1 Written Notice**. This LGIA may be terminated by Interconnection Customer after giving Transmission Provider ninety (90) Calendar Days advance written notice, or by Transmission Provider notifying FERC after the Generating Facility permanently ceases Commercial Operation.
- **2.3.2 Default**. Either Party may terminate this LGIA in accordance with Article 17.
- 2.3.3 Notwithstanding Articles 2.3.1 and 2.3.2, no termination shall become effective until the Parties have complied with all Applicable Laws and Regulations applicable to such termination, including the filing with FERC of a notice of termination of this LGIA, which notice has been accepted for filing by FERC.
- 2.4 Termination Costs. If a Party elects to terminate this Agreement pursuant to Article 2.3 above, each Party shall pay all costs incurred (including any cancellation costs relating to orders or contracts for Interconnection Facilities and equipment) or charges assessed by the other Party, as of the date of the other Party's receipt of such notice of termination, that are the responsibility of the Terminating Party under this LGIA. In the event of termination by a Party, the Parties shall use commercially Reasonable Efforts to mitigate the costs, damages and charges arising as a consequence of termination. Upon termination of this LGIA, unless otherwise ordered or approved by FERC:
 - 2.4.1 With respect to any portion of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities that have not yet been constructed or installed, Transmission Provider shall to the extent possible and with Interconnection Customer's authorization cancel any pending orders of, or return, any materials or equipment for, or contracts for construction of, such facilities; provided that in the event Interconnection Customer elects not to authorize such cancellation, Interconnection Customer shall assume all payment obligations with respect to such materials, equipment, and contracts, and Transmission Provider shall deliver such material and equipment, and, if necessary, assign such contracts, to Interconnection Customer as soon as practicable, at Interconnection Customer's expense. To the extent that Interconnection Customer has already paid Transmission Provider for any or all such costs of materials or equipment not taken by Interconnection Customer, Transmission Provider shall promptly refund such amounts to Interconnection

Customer, less any costs, including penalties incurred by Transmission Provider to cancel any pending orders of or return such materials, equipment, or contracts.

If an Interconnection Customer terminates this LGIA, it shall be responsible for all costs incurred in association with that Interconnection Customer's interconnection, including any cancellation costs relating to orders or contracts for Interconnection Facilities and equipment, and other expenses including any Network Upgrades for which Transmission Provider has incurred expenses and has not been reimbursed by Interconnection Customer.

- 2.4.2 Transmission Provider may, at its option, retain any portion of such materials, equipment, or facilities that Interconnection Customer chooses not to accept delivery of, in which case Transmission Provider shall be responsible for all costs associated with procuring such materials, equipment, or facilities.
- 2.4.3 With respect to any portion of the Interconnection Facilities, and any other facilities already installed or constructed pursuant to the terms of this LGIA, Interconnection Customer shall be responsible for all costs associated with the removal, relocation or other disposition or retirement of such materials, equipment, or facilities.
- 2.5 Disconnection. Upon termination of this LGIA, the Parties will take all appropriate steps to disconnect the Large Generating Facility from the Transmission System. All costs required to effectuate such disconnection shall be borne by the terminating Party, unless such termination resulted from the non-terminating Party's Default of this LGIA or such non-terminating Party otherwise is responsible for these costs under this LGIA.
- 2.6 Survival. This LGIA shall continue in effect after termination to the extent necessary to provide for final billings and payments and for costs incurred hereunder, including billings and payments pursuant to this LGIA; to permit the determination and enforcement of liability and indemnification obligations arising from acts or events that occurred while this LGIA was in effect; and to permit each Party to have access to the lands of the other Party pursuant to this LGIA or other applicable agreements, to disconnect, remove or salvage its own facilities and equipment.

Article 3. Regulatory Filings

3.1 Filing. Transmission Provider shall file this LGIA (and any amendment hereto) with the appropriate Governmental Authority, if required. Interconnection Customer may request that any information so provided be subject to the confidentiality provisions of Article 22. If Interconnection Customer has executed this LGIA, or any amendment thereto, Interconnection Customer shall reasonably cooperate with Transmission Provider with respect to such filing and to provide any information reasonably requested by Transmission Provider needed to comply with applicable regulatory requirements.

Article 4. Scope of Service

- 4.1 Interconnection Product Options. Interconnection Customer has selected the following (checked) type of Interconnection Service:
 - 4.1.1 Energy Resource Interconnection Service.
 - 4.1.1.1 The Product. Energy Resource Interconnection Service allows
 Interconnection Customer to connect the Large Generating Facility
 to the Transmission System and be eligible to deliver the Large
 Generating Facility's output using the existing firm or non-firm
 capacity of the Transmission System on an "as available" basis.
 To the extent Interconnection Customer wants to receive Energy
 Resource Interconnection Service, Transmission Provider shall
 construct facilities identified in Attachment A.
 - 4.1.1.2 Transmission Delivery Service Implications. Under Energy Resource Interconnection Service, Interconnection Customer will be eligible to inject power from the Large Generating Facility into and deliver power across the interconnecting Transmission Provider's Transmission System on an "as available" basis up to the amount of MWs identified in the applicable stability and steady state studies to the extent the upgrades initially required to qualify for Energy Resource Interconnection Service have been constructed. Where eligible to do so (e.g., PJM, ISO-NE, NYISO), Interconnection Customer may place a bid to sell into the market up to the maximum identified Large Generating Facility output, subject to any conditions specified in the interconnection service approval, and the Large Generating Facility will be dispatched to the extent Interconnection Customer's bid clears. In all other instances, no transmission delivery service from the Large Generating Facility is assured, but Interconnection Customer may obtain Point-to-Point Transmission Service, Network Integration Transmission Service, or be used for secondary network transmission service, pursuant to Transmission Provider's Tariff, up to the maximum output identified in the stability and steady state studies. In those instances, in order for Interconnection Customer to obtain the right to deliver or inject energy beyond the Large Generating Facility Point of Interconnection or to improve its ability to do so, transmission delivery service must be obtained pursuant to the provisions of Transmission Provider's Tariff. The Interconnection Customer's ability to inject its Large Generating Facility output beyond the Point of Interconnection, therefore, will depend on the existing capacity of Transmission Provider's Transmission System at such time as a transmission service request is made that would accommodate such delivery. The provision of firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service or Network Integration Transmission Service may require the construction of additional

Network Upgrades.

4.1.2 Network Resource Interconnection Service.

4.1.2.1

The Product. Transmission Provider must conduct the necessary studies and construct the Network Upgrades needed to integrate the Large Generating Facility (1) in a manner comparable to that in which Transmission Provider integrates its generating facilities to serve native load customers; or (2) in an ISO or RTO with market based congestion management, in the same manner as all Network Resources. To the extent Interconnection Customer wants to receive Network Resource Interconnection Service, Transmission Provider shall construct the facilities identified in Attachment A to this LGIA.

4.1.2.2 Transmission Delivery Service Implications. Network Resource Interconnection Service allows Interconnection Customer's Large Generating Facility to be designated by any Network Customer under the Tariff on Transmission Provider's Transmission System as a Network Resource, up to the Large Generating Facility's full output, on the same basis as existing Network Resources interconnected to Transmission Provider's Transmission System, and to be studied as a Network Resource on the assumption that such a designation will occur. Although Network Resource Interconnection Service does not convey a reservation of transmission service, any Network Customer under the Tariff can utilize its network service under the Tariff to obtain delivery of energy from the interconnected Interconnection Customer's Large Generating Facility in the same manner as it accesses Network Resources. A Large Generating Facility receiving Network Resource Interconnection Service may also be used to provide Ancillary Services after technical studies and/or periodic analyses are performed with respect to the Large Generating Facility's ability to provide any applicable Ancillary Services, provided that such studies and analyses have been or would be required in connection with the provision of such Ancillary Services by any existing Network Resource. However, if an Interconnection Customer's Large Generating Facility has not been designated as a Network Resource by any load, it cannot be required to provide Ancillary Services except to the extent such requirements extend to all generating facilities that are similarly situated. The provision of Network Integration Transmission Service or firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service may require additional studies and the construction of additional upgrades. Because such studies and upgrades would be associated with a request for delivery service under the Tariff, cost responsibility for the studies and upgrades would be in accordance with FERC's policy for pricing transmission delivery services.

Network Resource Interconnection Service does not necessarily provide Interconnection Customer with the capability to physically deliver the output of its Large Generating Facility to any particular load on Transmission Provider's Transmission System without incurring congestion costs. In the event of transmission constraints on Transmission Provider's Transmission System, Interconnection Customer's Large Generating Facility shall be subject to the applicable congestion management procedures in Transmission Provider's Transmission System in the same manner as Network Resources.

There is no requirement either at the time of study or interconnection, or at any point in the future, that Interconnection Customer's Large Generating Facility be designated as a Network Resource by a Network Service Customer under the Tariff or that Interconnection Customer identify a specific buyer (or sink). To the extent a Network Customer does designate the Large Generating Facility as a Network Resource, it must do so pursuant to Transmission Provider's Tariff.

Once an Interconnection Customer satisfies the requirements for obtaining Network Resource Interconnection Service, any future transmission service request for delivery from the Large Generating Facility within Transmission Provider's Transmission System of any amount of capacity and/or energy, up to the amount initially studied, will not require that any additional studies be performed or that any further upgrades associated with such Large Generating Facility be undertaken, regardless of whether or not such Large Generating Facility is ever designated by a Network Customer as a Network Resource and regardless of changes in ownership of the Large Generating Facility. However, the reduction or elimination of congestion or redispatch costs may require additional studies and the construction of additional upgrades.

To the extent Interconnection Customer enters into an arrangement for long term transmission service for deliveries from the Large Generating Facility outside Transmission Provider's Transmission System, such request may require additional studies and upgrades in order for Transmission Provider to grant such request.

- **4.2 Provision of Service.** Transmission Provider shall provide Interconnection Service for the Large Generating Facility at the Point of Interconnection.
- **4.3 Performance Standards**. Each Party shall perform all of its obligations under this LGIA in accordance with Applicable Laws and Regulations, Applicable Reliability Standards, and Good Utility Practice, and to the extent a Party is required or prevented or limited in

taking any action by such regulations and standards, such Party shall not be deemed to be in Breach of this LGIA for its compliance therewith. If such Party is a Transmission Provider or Transmission Owner, then that Party shall amend the LGIA and submit the amendment to FERC for approval.

- 4.4 No Transmission Delivery Service. The execution of this LGIA does not constitute a request for, nor the provision of, any transmission delivery service under Transmission Provider's Tariff, and does not convey any right to deliver electricity to any specific customer or Point of Delivery.
- 4.5 Interconnection Customer Provided Services. The services provided by Interconnection Customer under this LGIA are set forth in Article 9.6 and Article 13.5.1. Interconnection Customer shall be paid for such services in accordance with Article 11.6.

Article 5. Interconnection Facilities Engineering, Procurement, and Construction

- 5.1 Options. Unless otherwise mutually agreed to between the Parties, Interconnection Customer shall select the In-Service Date, Initial Synchronization Date, and Commercial Operation Date; and either Standard Option or Alternate Option set forth below for completion of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades as set forth in Appendix A, Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades, and such dates and selected option shall be set forth in Appendix B, Milestones.
 - 5.1.1 Standard Option. Transmission Provider shall design, procure, and construct Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades, using Reasonable Efforts to complete Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades by the dates set forth in Appendix B, Milestones. Transmission Provider shall not be required to undertake any action which is inconsistent with its standard safety practices, its material and equipment specifications, its design criteria and construction procedures, its labor agreements, and Applicable Laws and Regulations. In the event Transmission Provider reasonably expects that it will not be able to complete Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades by the specified dates, Transmission Provider shall promptly provide written notice to Interconnection Customer and shall undertake Reasonable Efforts to meet the earliest dates thereafter.
 - 5.1.2 Alternate Option. If the dates designated by Interconnection Customer are acceptable to Transmission Provider, Transmission Provider shall so notify Interconnection Customer within thirty (30) Calendar Days, and shall assume responsibility for the design, procurement and construction of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities by the designated dates.

If Transmission Provider subsequently fails to complete Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities by the In-Service Date, to the extent necessary to provide back feed power; or fails to complete Network Upgrades by the Initial Synchronization Date to the extent necessary to allow for Trial Operation at full

power output, unless other arrangements are made by the Parties for such Trial Operation; or fails to complete the Network Upgrades by the Commercial Operation Date, as such dates are reflected in Appendix B, Milestones; Transmission Provider shall pay Interconnection Customer liquidated damages in accordance with Article 5.3, Liquidated Damages, provided, however, the dates designated by Interconnection Customer shall be extended day for day for each day that the applicable RTO or ISO refuses to grant clearances to install equipment.

- 5.1.3 Option to Build. If the dates designated by Interconnection Customer are not acceptable to Transmission Provider, Transmission Provider shall so notify Interconnection Customer within thirty (30) Calendar Days, and unless the Parties agree otherwise, Interconnection Customer shall have the option to assume responsibility for the design, procurement and construction of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand Alone Network Upgrades on the dates specified in Article 5.1.2. Transmission Provider and Interconnection Customer must agree as to what constitutes Stand Alone Network Upgrades and identify such Stand Alone Network Upgrades in Appendix A. Except for Stand Alone Network Upgrades, Interconnection Customer shall have no right to construct Network Upgrades under this option.
- 5.1.4 Negotiated Option. If Interconnection Customer elects not to exercise its option under Article 5.1.3, Option to Build, Interconnection Customer shall so notify Transmission Provider within thirty (30) Calendar Days, and the Parties shall in good faith attempt to negotiate terms and conditions (including revision of the specified dates and liquidated damages, the provision of incentives or the procurement and construction of a portion of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand Alone Network Upgrades by Interconnection Customer) pursuant to which Transmission Provider is responsible for the design, procurement and construction of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades. If the Parties are unable to reach agreement on such terms and conditions, Transmission Provider shall assume responsibility for the design, procurement and construction of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades pursuant to 5.1.1, Standard Option.
- 5.2 General Conditions Applicable to Option to Build. If Interconnection Customer assumes responsibility for the design, procurement and construction of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand Alone Network Upgrades,
 - (1) Interconnection Customer shall engineer, procure equipment, and construct Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand Alone Network Upgrades (or portions thereof) using Good Utility Practice and using standards and specifications provided in advance by Transmission Provider;
 - (2) Interconnection Customer's engineering, procurement and construction of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand Alone Network

Upgrades shall comply with all requirements of law to which Transmission Provider would be subject in the engineering, procurement or construction of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand Alone Network Upgrades;

- (3) Transmission Provider shall review and approve the engineering design, equipment acceptance tests, and the construction of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand Alone Network Upgrades;
- (4) prior to commencement of construction, Interconnection Customer shall provide to Transmission Provider a schedule for construction of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand Alone Network Upgrades, and shall promptly respond to requests for information from Transmission Provider;
- (5) at any time during construction, Transmission Provider shall have the right to gain unrestricted access to Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand Alone Network Upgrades and to conduct inspections of the same;
- (6) at any time during construction, should any phase of the engineering, equipment procurement, or construction of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand Alone Network Upgrades not meet the standards and specifications provided by Transmission Provider, Interconnection Customer shall be obligated to remedy deficiencies in that portion of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand Alone Network Upgrades;
- (7) Interconnection Customer shall indemnify Transmission Provider for claims arising from Interconnection Customer's construction of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand Alone Network Upgrades under the terms and procedures applicable to Article 18.1 Indemnity;
- (8) Interconnection Customer shall transfer control of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand Alone Network Upgrades to Transmission Provider;
- (9) Unless Parties otherwise agree, Interconnection Customer shall transfer ownership of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand-Alone Network Upgrades to Transmission Provider;
- (10) Transmission Provider shall approve and accept for operation and maintenance Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand Alone Network Upgrades to the extent engineered, procured, and constructed in accordance with this Article 5.2; and
- (11) Interconnection Customer shall deliver to Transmission Provider "as-built" drawings, information, and any other documents that are reasonably required by Transmission Provider to assure that the Interconnection Facilities and Stand-

Alone Network Upgrades are built to the standards and specifications required by Transmission Provider.

Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities or Network Upgrades are not completed by the dates designated by Interconnection Customer and accepted by Transmission Provider pursuant to subparagraphs 5.1.2 or 5.1.4, above, may include Interconnection Customer's fixed operation and maintenance costs and lost opportunity costs. Such actual damages are uncertain and impossible to determine at this time. Because of such uncertainty, any liquidated damages paid by Transmission Provider to Interconnection Customer in the event that Transmission Provider does not complete any portion of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities or Network Upgrades by the applicable dates, shall be an amount equal to ½ of 1 percent per day of the actual cost of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades, in the aggregate, for which Transmission Provider has assumed responsibility to design, procure and construct.

However, in no event shall the total liquidated damages exceed 20 percent of the actual cost of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades for which Transmission Provider has assumed responsibility to design, procure, and construct. The foregoing payments will be made by Transmission Provider to Interconnection Customer as just compensation for the damages caused to Interconnection Customer, which actual damages are uncertain and impossible to determine at this time, and as reasonable liquidated damages, but not as a penalty or a method to secure performance of this LGIA. Liquidated damages, when the Parties agree to them, are the exclusive remedy for the Transmission Provider's failure to meet its schedule.

No liquidated damages shall be paid to Interconnection Customer if: (1) Interconnection Customer is not ready to commence use of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities or Network Upgrades to take the delivery of power for the Large Generating Facility's Trial Operation or to export power from the Large Generating Facility on the specified dates, unless Interconnection Customer would have been able to commence use of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities or Network Upgrades to take the delivery of power for Large Generating Facility's Trial Operation or to export power from the Large Generating Facility, but for Transmission Provider's delay; (2) Transmission Provider's failure to meet the specified dates is the result of the action or inaction of Interconnection Customer or any other Interconnection Customer who has entered into an LGIA with Transmission Provider or any cause beyond Transmission Provider's reasonable control or reasonable ability to cure; (3) the Interconnection Customer has assumed responsibility for the design, procurement and construction of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand Alone Network Upgrades; or (4) the Parties have otherwise agreed.

5.4 Power System Stabilizers. The Interconnection Customer shall procure, install, maintain and operate Power System Stabilizers in accordance with the guidelines and procedures established by the Applicable Reliability Council. Transmission Provider

reserves the right to reasonably establish minimum acceptable settings for any installed Power System Stabilizers, subject to the design and operating limitations of the Large Generating Facility. If the Large Generating Facility's Power System Stabilizers are removed from service or not capable of automatic operation, Interconnection Customer shall immediately notify Transmission Provider's system operator, or its designated representative. The requirements of this paragraph shall not apply to wind generators.

- 5.5 Equipment Procurement. If responsibility for construction of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities or Network Upgrades is to be borne by Transmission Provider, then Transmission Provider shall commence design of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities or Network Upgrades and procure necessary equipment as soon as practicable after all of the following conditions are satisfied, unless the Parties otherwise agree in writing:
 - 5.5.1 Transmission Provider has completed the Facilities Study pursuant to the Facilities Study Agreement;
 - 5.5.2 Transmission Provider has received written authorization to proceed with design and procurement from Interconnection Customer by the date specified in Appendix B, Milestones; and
 - 5.5.3 Interconnection Customer has provided security to Transmission Provider in accordance with Article 11.5 by the dates specified in Appendix B, Milestones.
- **5.6 Construction Commencement.** Transmission Provider shall commence construction of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades for which it is responsible as soon as practicable after the following additional conditions are satisfied:
 - **5.6.1** Approval of the appropriate Governmental Authority has been obtained for any facilities requiring regulatory approval;
 - 5.6.2 Necessary real property rights and rights-of-way have been obtained, to the extent required for the construction of a discrete aspect of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades;
 - 5.6.3 Transmission Provider has received written authorization to proceed with construction from Interconnection Customer by the date specified in Appendix B, Milestones; and
 - 5.6.4 Interconnection Customer has provided security to Transmission Provider in accordance with Article 11.5 by the dates specified in Appendix B, Milestones.
- 5.7 Work Progress. The Parties will keep each other advised periodically as to the progress of their respective design, procurement and construction efforts. Either Party may, at any time, request a progress report from the other Party. If, at any time, Interconnection Customer determines that the completion of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities will not be required until after the specified In-Service Date, Interconnection Customer will provide written notice to Transmission Provider of such later date upon

- which the completion of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities will be required.
- 5.8 Information Exchange. As soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date, the Parties shall exchange information regarding the design and compatibility of the Parties' Interconnection Facilities and compatibility of the Interconnection Facilities with Transmission Provider's Transmission System, and shall work diligently and in good faith to make any necessary design changes.
- 5.9 Limited Operation. If any of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities or Network Upgrades are not reasonably expected to be completed prior to the Commercial Operation Date of the Large Generating Facility, Transmission Provider shall, upon the request and at the expense of Interconnection Customer, perform operating studies on a timely basis to determine the extent to which the Large Generating Facility and Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities may operate prior to the completion of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities or Network Upgrades consistent with Applicable Laws and Regulations, Applicable Reliability Standards, Good Utility Practice, and this LGIA. Transmission Provider shall permit Interconnection Customer to operate the Large Generating Facility and Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities in accordance with the results of such studies.
- 5.10 Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities ('ICIF'). Interconnection Customer shall, at its expense, design, procure, construct, own and install the ICIF, as set forth in Appendix A, Interconnection Facilities, Network Upgrades and Distribution Upgrades.
 - 5.10.1 Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facility Specifications.

 Interconnection Customer shall submit initial specifications for the ICIF, including System Protection Facilities, to Transmission Provider at least one hundred eighty (180) Calendar Days prior to the Initial Synchronization Date; and final specifications for review and comment at least ninety (90) Calendar Days prior to the Initial Synchronization Date. Transmission Provider shall review such specifications to ensure that the ICIF are compatible with the technical specifications, operational control, and safety requirements of Transmission Provider and comment on such specifications within thirty (30) Calendar Days of Interconnection Customer's submission. All specifications provided hereunder shall be deemed confidential.
 - 5.10.2 Transmission Provider's Review. Transmission Provider's review of Interconnection Customer's final specifications shall not be construed as confirming, endorsing, or providing a warranty as to the design, fitness, safety, durability or reliability of the Large Generating Facility, or the ICIF.

 Interconnection Customer shall make such changes to the ICIF as may reasonably be required by Transmission Provider, in accordance with Good Utility Practice, to ensure that the ICIF are compatible with the technical specifications, operational control, and safety requirements of Transmission Provider.

- 5.10.3 ICIF Construction. The ICIF shall be designed and constructed in accordance with Good Utility Practice. Within one hundred twenty (120) Calendar Days after the Commercial Operation Date, unless the Parties agree on another mutually acceptable deadline, Interconnection Customer shall deliver to Transmission Provider "as-built" drawings, information and documents for the ICIF, such as: a one-line diagram, a site plan showing the Large Generating Facility and the ICIF, plan and elevation drawings showing the layout of the ICIF, a relay functional diagram, relaying AC and DC schematic wiring diagrams and relay settings for all facilities associated with Interconnection Customer's step-up transformers, the facilities connecting the Large Generating Facility to the step-up transformers and the ICIF, and the impedances (determined by factory tests) for the associated step-up transformers and the Large Generating Facility. The Interconnection Customer shall provide Transmission Provider specifications for the excitation system, automatic voltage regulator, Large Generating Facility control and protection settings, transformer tap settings, and communications, if applicable.
- 5.11 Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities Construction. Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities shall be designed and constructed in accordance with Good Utility Practice. Upon request, within one hundred twenty (120) Calendar Days after the Commercial Operation Date, unless the Parties agree on another mutually acceptable deadline, Transmission Provider shall deliver to Interconnection Customer the following "as-built" drawings, information and documents for Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities [include appropriate drawings and relay diagrams].

Transmission Provider will obtain control of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Stand Alone Network Upgrades upon completion of such facilities.

- 5.12 Access Rights. Upon reasonable notice and supervision by a Party, and subject to any required or necessary regulatory approvals, a Party ("Granting Party") shall furnish at no cost to the other Party ("Access Party") any rights of use, licenses, rights of way and easements with respect to lands owned or controlled by the Granting Party, its agents (if allowed under the applicable agency agreement), or any Affiliate, that are necessary to enable the Access Party to obtain ingress and egress to construct, operate, maintain, repair, test (or witness testing), inspect, replace or remove facilities and equipment to: (i) interconnect the Large Generating Facility with the Transmission System; (ii) operate and maintain the Large Generating Facility, the Interconnection Facilities and the Transmission System; and (iii) disconnect or remove the Access Party's facilities and equipment upon termination of this LGIA. In exercising such licenses, rights of way and easements, the Access Party shall not unreasonably disrupt or interfere with normal operation of the Granting Party's business and shall adhere to the safety rules and procedures established in advance, as may be changed from time to time, by the Granting Party and provided to the Access Party.
- 5.13 Lands of Other Property Owners. If any part of Transmission Provider or Transmission Owner's Interconnection Facilities and/or Network Upgrades is to be installed on property owned by persons other than Interconnection Customer or Transmission Provider or Transmission Owner, Transmission Provider or Transmission

Owner shall at Interconnection Customer's expense use efforts, similar in nature and extent to those that it typically undertakes on its own behalf or on behalf of its Affiliates, including use of its eminent domain authority, and to the extent consistent with state law, to procure from such persons any rights of use, licenses, rights of way and easements that are necessary to construct, operate, maintain, test, inspect, replace or remove Transmission Provider or Transmission Owner's Interconnection Facilities and/or Network Upgrades upon such property.

- 5.14 Permits. Transmission Provider or Transmission Owner and Interconnection Customer shall cooperate with each other in good faith in obtaining all permits, licenses, and authorizations that are necessary to accomplish the interconnection in compliance with Applicable Laws and Regulations. With respect to this paragraph, Transmission Provider or Transmission Owner shall provide permitting assistance to Interconnection Customer comparable to that provided to Transmission Provider's own, or an Affiliate's generation.
- 5.15 Early Construction of Base Case Facilities. Interconnection Customer may request Transmission Provider to construct, and Transmission Provider shall construct, using Reasonable Efforts to accommodate Interconnection Customer's In-Service Date, all or any portion of any Network Upgrades required for Interconnection Customer to be interconnected to the Transmission System which are included in the Base Case of the Facilities Study for Interconnection Customer, and which also are required to be constructed for another Interconnection Customer, but where such construction is not scheduled to be completed in time to achieve Interconnection Customer's In-Service Date.
- 5.16 Suspension. Interconnection Customer reserves the right, upon written notice to Transmission Provider, to suspend at any time all work by Transmission Provider associated with the construction and installation of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and/or Network Upgrades required under this LGIA with the condition that Transmission System shall be left in a safe and reliable condition in accordance with Good Utility Practice and Transmission Provider's safety and reliability criteria. In such event, Interconnection Customer shall be responsible for all reasonable and necessary costs which Transmission Provider (i) has incurred pursuant to this LGIA prior to the suspension and (ii) incurs in suspending such work, including any costs incurred to perform such work as may be necessary to ensure the safety of persons and property and the integrity of the Transmission System during such suspension and, if applicable, any costs incurred in connection with the cancellation or suspension of material, equipment and labor contracts which Transmission Provider cannot reasonably avoid; provided, however, that prior to canceling or suspending any such material, equipment or labor contract, Transmission Provider shall obtain Interconnection Customer's authorization to do so.

Transmission Provider shall invoice Interconnection Customer for such costs pursuant to Article 12 and shall use due diligence to minimize its costs. In the event Interconnection Customer suspends work by Transmission Provider required under this LGIA pursuant to this Article 5.16, and has not requested Transmission Provider to recommence the work required under this LGIA on or before the expiration of three (3) years following

commencement of such suspension, this LGIA shall be deemed terminated. The three-year period shall begin on the date the suspension is requested, or the date of the written notice to Transmission Provider, if no effective date is specified.

5.17 Taxes.

- 5.17.1 Interconnection Customer Payments Not Taxable. The Parties intend that all payments or property transfers made by Interconnection Customer to Transmission Provider for the installation of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and the Network Upgrades shall be non-taxable, either as contributions to capital, or as an advance, in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code and any applicable state income tax laws and shall not be taxable as contributions in aid of construction or otherwise under the Internal Revenue Code and any applicable state income tax laws.
- 5.17.2 Representations and Covenants. In accordance with IRS Notice 2001-82 and IRS Notice 88-129, Interconnection Customer represents and covenants that (i) ownership of the electricity generated at the Large Generating Facility will pass to another party prior to the transmission of the electricity on the Transmission System, (ii) for income tax purposes, the amount of any payments and the cost of any property transferred to Transmission Provider for Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities will be capitalized by Interconnection Customer as an intangible asset and recovered using the straight-line method over a useful life of twenty (20) years, and (iii) any portion of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities that is a "dual-use intertie," within the meaning of IRS Notice 88-129, is reasonably expected to carry only a de minimis amount of electricity in the direction of the Large Generating Facility. For this purpose, "de minimis amount" means no more than 5 percent of the total power flows in both directions, calculated in accordance with the "5 percent test" set forth in IRS Notice 88-129. This is not intended to be an exclusive list of the relevant conditions that must be met to conform to IRS requirements for non-taxable treatment.

At Transmission Provider's request, Interconnection Customer shall provide Transmission Provider with a report from an independent engineer confirming its representation in clause (iii), above. Transmission Provider represents and covenants that the cost of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities paid for by Interconnection Customer will have no net effect on the base upon which rates are determined.

5.17.3 Indemnification for the Cost Consequences of Current Tax Liability Imposed Upon the Transmission Provider. Notwithstanding Article 5.17.1, Interconnection Customer shall protect, indemnify and hold harmless Transmission Provider from the cost consequences of any current tax liability imposed against Transmission Provider as the result of payments or property transfers made by Interconnection Customer to Transmission Provider under this LGIA for Interconnection Facilities, as well as any interest and penalties, other

than interest and penalties attributable to any delay caused by Transmission Provider.

Transmission Provider shall not include a gross-up for the cost consequences of any current tax liability in the amounts it charges Interconnection Customer under this LGIA unless (i) Transmission Provider has determined, in good faith, that the payments or property transfers made by Interconnection Customer to Transmission Provider should be reported as income subject to taxation or (ii) any Governmental Authority directs Transmission Provider to report payments or property as income subject to taxation; provided, however, that Transmission Provider may require Interconnection Customer to provide security for Interconnection Facilities, in a form reasonably acceptable to Transmission Provider (such as a parental guarantee or a letter of credit), in an amount equal to the cost consequences of any current tax liability under this Article 5.17. Interconnection Customer shall reimburse Transmission Provider for such costs on a fully grossed-up basis, in accordance with Article 5.17.4, within thirty (30) Calendar Days of receiving written notification from Transmission Provider of the amount due, including detail about how the amount was calculated.

The indemnification obligation shall terminate at the earlier of (1) the expiration of the ten year testing period and the applicable statute of limitation, as it may be extended by Transmission Provider upon request of the IRS, to keep these years open for audit or adjustment, or (2) the occurrence of a subsequent taxable event and the payment of any related indemnification obligations as contemplated by this Article 5.17.

5.17.4 Tax Gross-Up Amount. Interconnection Customer's liability for the cost consequences of any current tax liability under this Article 5.17 shall be calculated on a fully grossed-up basis. Except as may otherwise be agreed to by the parties, this means that Interconnection Customer will pay Transmission Provider, in addition to the amount paid for the Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades, an amount equal to (1) the current taxes imposed on Transmission Provider ("Current Taxes") on the excess of (a) the gross income realized by Transmission Provider as a result of payments or property transfers made by Interconnection Customer to Transmission Provider under this LGIA (without regard to any payments under this Article 5.17) (the "Gross Income Amount") over (b) the present value of future tax deductions for depreciation that will be available as a result of such payments or property transfers (the "Present Value Depreciation Amount"), plus (2) an additional amount sufficient to permit Transmission Provider to receive and retain, after the payment of all Current Taxes, an amount equal to the net amount described in clause (1).

For this purpose, (i) Current Taxes shall be computed based on Transmission Provider's composite federal and state tax rates at the time the payments or property transfers are received and Transmission Provider will be treated as being subject to tax at the highest marginal rates in effect at that time (the "Current Tax Rate"), and (ii) the Present Value Depreciation Amount shall be computed by

discounting Transmission Provider's anticipated tax depreciation deductions as a result of such payments or property transfers by Transmission Provider's current weighted average cost of capital. Thus, the formula for calculating Interconnection Customer's liability to Transmission Owner pursuant to this Article 5.17.4 can be expressed as follows: (Current Tax Rate x (Gross Income Amount - Present Value of Tax Depreciation))/(1-Current Tax Rate). Interconnection Customer's estimated tax liability in the event taxes are imposed shall be stated in Appendix A, Interconnection Facilities, Network Upgrades and Distribution Upgrades.

5.17.5 Private Letter Ruling or Change or Clarification of Law. At Interconnection Customer's request and expense, Transmission Provider shall file with the IRS a request for a private letter ruling as to whether any property transferred or sums paid, or to be paid, by Interconnection Customer to Transmission Provider under this LGIA are subject to federal income taxation. Interconnection Customer will prepare the initial draft of the request for a private letter ruling, and will certify under penalties of perjury that all facts represented in such request are true and accurate to the best of Interconnection Customer's knowledge. Transmission Provider and Interconnection Customer shall cooperate in good faith with respect to the submission of such request.

Transmission Provider shall keep Interconnection Customer fully informed of the status of such request for a private letter ruling and shall execute either a privacy act waiver or a limited power of attorney, in a form acceptable to the IRS, that authorizes Interconnection Customer to participate in all discussions with the IRS regarding such request for a private letter ruling. Transmission Provider shall allow Interconnection Customer to attend all meetings with IRS officials about the request and shall permit Interconnection Customer to prepare the initial drafts of any follow-up letters in connection with the request.

- 5.17.6 Subsequent Taxable Events. If, within 10 years from the date on which the relevant Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities are placed in service, (i) Interconnection Customer Breaches the covenants contained in Article 5.17.2, (ii) a "disqualification event" occurs within the meaning of IRS Notice 88-129, or (iii) this LGIA terminates and Transmission Provider retains ownership of the Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades, Interconnection Customer shall pay a tax gross-up for the cost consequences of any current tax liability imposed on Transmission Provider, calculated using the methodology described in Article 5.17.4 and in accordance with IRS Notice 90-60.
- 5.17.7 Contests. In the event any Governmental Authority determines that Transmission Provider's receipt of payments or property constitutes income that is subject to taxation, Transmission Provider shall notify Interconnection Customer, in writing, within thirty (30) Calendar Days of receiving notification of such determination by a Governmental Authority. Upon the timely written request by Interconnection Customer and at Interconnection Customer's sole expense, Transmission Provider may appeal, protest, seek abatement of, or otherwise

oppose such determination. Upon Interconnection Customer's written request and sole expense, Transmission Provider may file a claim for refund with respect to any taxes paid under this Article 5.17, whether or not it has received such a determination. Transmission Provider reserves the right to make all decisions with regard to the prosecution of such appeal, protest, abatement or other contest, including the selection of counsel and compromise or settlement of the claim, but Transmission Provider shall keep Interconnection Customer informed, shall consider in good faith suggestions from Interconnection Customer about the conduct of the contest, and shall reasonably permit Interconnection Customer or an Interconnection Customer representative to attend contest proceedings.

Interconnection Customer shall pay to Transmission Provider on a periodic basis, as invoiced by Transmission Provider, Transmission Provider's documented reasonable costs of prosecuting such appeal, protest, abatement or other contest. At any time during the contest, Transmission Provider may agree to a settlement either with Interconnection Customer's consent or after obtaining written advice from nationally-recognized tax counsel, selected by Transmission Provider, but reasonably acceptable to Interconnection Customer, that the proposed settlement represents a reasonable settlement given the hazards of litigation. Interconnection Customer's obligation shall be based on the amount of the settlement agreed to by Interconnection Customer, or if a higher amount, so much of the settlement that is supported by the written advice from nationally-recognized tax counsel selected under the terms of the preceding sentence. The settlement amount shall be calculated on a fully grossed-up basis to cover any related cost consequences of the current tax liability. Any settlement without Interconnection Customer's consent or such written advice will relieve Interconnection Customer from any obligation to indemnify Transmission Provider for the tax at issue in the contest.

5.17.8 Refund. In the event that (a) a private letter ruling is issued to Transmission Provider which holds that any amount paid or the value of any property transferred by Interconnection Customer to Transmission Provider under the terms of this LGIA is not subject to federal income taxation, (b) any legislative change or administrative announcement, notice, ruling or other determination makes it reasonably clear to Transmission Provider in good faith that any amount paid or the value of any property transferred by Interconnection Customer to Transmission Provider under the terms of this LGIA is not taxable to Transmission Provider, (c) any abatement, appeal, protest, or other contest results in a determination that any payments or transfers made by Interconnection Customer to Transmission Provider are not subject to federal income tax, or (d) if Transmission Provider receives a refund from any taxing authority for any overpayment of tax attributable to any payment or property transfer made by Interconnection Customer to Transmission Provider pursuant to this LGIA, Transmission Provider shall promptly refund to Interconnection Customer the following:

- (i) any payment made by Interconnection Customer under this Article 5.17 for taxes that is attributable to the amount determined to be non-taxable, together with interest thereon,
- (ii) interest on any amount paid by Interconnection Customer to Transmission Provider for such taxes which Transmission Provider did not submit to the taxing authority, calculated in accordance with the methodology set forth in FERC's regulations at 18 C.F.R. § 35.19a(a)(2)(iii) from the date payment was made by Interconnection Customer to the date Transmission Provider refunds such payment to Interconnection Customer, and
- (iii) with respect to any such taxes paid by Transmission Provider, any refund or credit Transmission Provider receives or to which it may be entitled from any Governmental Authority, interest (or that portion thereof attributable to the payment described in clause (i), above) owed to Transmission Provider for such overpayment of taxes (including any reduction in interest otherwise payable by Transmission Provider to any Governmental Authority resulting from an offset or credit); provided, however, that Transmission Provider will remit such amount promptly to Interconnection Customer only after and to the extent that Transmission Provider has received a tax refund, credit or offset from any Governmental Authority for any applicable overpayment of income tax related to Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities.

The intent of this provision is to leave the Parties, to the extent practicable, in the event that no taxes are due with respect to any payment for Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades hereunder, in the same position they would have been in had no such tax payments been made.

5.17.9 Taxes Other Than Income Taxes. Upon the timely request by Interconnection Customer, and at Interconnection Customer's sole expense, Transmission Provider may appeal, protest, seek abatement of, or otherwise contest any tax (other than federal or state income tax) asserted or assessed against Transmission Provider for which Interconnection Customer may be required to reimburse Transmission Provider under the terms of this LGIA. Interconnection Customer shall pay to Transmission Provider on a periodic basis, as invoiced by Transmission Provider, Transmission Provider's documented reasonable costs of prosecuting such appeal, protest, abatement, or other contest. Interconnection Customer and Transmission Provider shall cooperate in good faith with respect to any such contest. Unless the payment of such taxes is a prerequisite to an appeal or abatement or cannot be deferred, no amount shall be payable by Interconnection Customer to Transmission Provider for such taxes until they are assessed by a final, nonappealable order by any court or agency of competent jurisdiction. In the event that a tax payment is withheld and ultimately due and payable after appeal, Interconnection Customer will be responsible for all taxes, interest and penalties, other than penalties attributable to any delay caused by Transmission Provider.

5.17.10 Transmission Owners Who Are Not Transmission Providers. If

Transmission Provider is not the same entity as the Transmission Owner, then (i) all references in this Article 5.17 to Transmission Provider shall be deemed also to refer to and to include the Transmission Owner, as appropriate, and (ii) this LGIA shall not become effective until such Transmission Owner shall have agreed in writing to assume all of the duties and obligations of Transmission Provider under this Article 5.17 of this LGIA.

5.18 Tax Status. Each Party shall cooperate with the other to maintain the other Party's tax status. Nothing in this LGIA is intended to adversely affect any Transmission Provider's tax exempt status with respect to the issuance of bonds including, but not limited to, Local Furnishing Bonds.

5.19 Modification.

5.19.1 General. Either Party may undertake modifications to its facilities. If a Party plans to undertake a modification that reasonably may be expected to affect the other Party's facilities, that Party shall provide to the other Party sufficient information regarding such modification so that the other Party may evaluate the potential impact of such modification prior to commencement of the work. Such information shall be deemed to be confidential hereunder and shall include information concerning the timing of such modifications and whether such modifications are expected to interrupt the flow of electricity from the Large Generating Facility. The Party desiring to perform such work shall provide the relevant drawings, plans, and specifications to the other Party at least ninety (90) Calendar Days in advance of the commencement of the work or such shorter period upon which the Parties may agree, which agreement shall not unreasonably be withheld, conditioned or delayed.

In the case of Large Generating Facility modifications that do not require Interconnection Customer to submit an Interconnection Request, Transmission Provider shall provide, within thirty (30) Calendar Days (or such other time as the Parties may agree), an estimate of any additional modifications to the Transmission System, Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities or Network Upgrades necessitated by such Interconnection Customer modification and a good faith estimate of the costs thereof.

- **5.19.2 Standards.** Any additions, modifications, or replacements made to a Party's facilities shall be designed, constructed and operated in accordance with this LGIA and Good Utility Practice.
- 5.19.3 Modification Costs. Interconnection Customer shall not be directly assigned for the costs of any additions, modifications, or replacements that Transmission Provider makes to Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities or the Transmission System to facilitate the interconnection of a third party to Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities or the Transmission System, or to provide transmission service to a third party under Transmission Provider's

Tariff. Interconnection Customer shall be responsible for the costs of any additions, modifications, or replacements to Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities that may be necessary to maintain or upgrade such Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities consistent with Applicable Laws and Regulations, Applicable Reliability Standards or Good Utility Practice.

Article 6. Testing and Inspection

- Operation Date, Transmission Provider shall test Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades and Interconnection Customer shall test the Large Generating Facility and Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities to ensure their safe and reliable operation. Similar testing may be required after initial operation. Each Party shall make any modifications to its facilities that are found to be necessary as a result of such testing. Interconnection Customer shall bear the cost of all such testing and modifications. Interconnection Customer shall generate test energy at the Large Generating Facility only if it has arranged for the delivery of such test energy.
- 6.2 Post-Commercial Operation Date Testing and Modifications. Each Party shall at its own expense perform routine inspection and testing of its facilities and equipment in accordance with Good Utility Practice as may be necessary to ensure the continued interconnection of the Large Generating Facility with the Transmission System in a safe and reliable manner. Each Party shall have the right, upon advance written notice, to require reasonable additional testing of the other Party's facilities, at the requesting Party's expense, as may be in accordance with Good Utility Practice.
- **Right to Observe Testing.** Each Party shall notify the other Party in advance of its performance of tests of its Interconnection Facilities. The other Party has the right, at its own expense, to observe such testing.
- 6.4 Right to Inspect. Each Party shall have the right, but shall have no obligation to: (i) observe the other Party's tests and/or inspection of any of its System Protection Facilities and other protective equipment, including Power System Stabilizers; (ii) review the settings of the other Party's System Protection Facilities and other protective equipment; and (iii) review the other Party's maintenance records relative to the Interconnection Facilities, the System Protection Facilities and other protective equipment. A Party may exercise these rights from time to time as it deems necessary upon reasonable notice to the other Party. The exercise or non-exercise by a Party of any such rights shall not be construed as an endorsement or confirmation of any element or condition of the Interconnection Facilities or the System Protection Facilities or other protective equipment or the operation thereof, or as a warranty as to the fitness, safety, desirability, or reliability of same. Any information that a Party obtains through the exercise of any of its rights under this Article 6.4 shall be deemed to be Confidential Information and treated pursuant to Article 22 of this LGIA.

Article 7. Metering

- 7.1 General. Each Party shall comply with the Applicable Reliability Council requirements. Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, Transmission Provider shall install Metering Equipment at the Point of Interconnection prior to any operation of the Large Generating Facility and shall own, operate, test and maintain such Metering Equipment. Power flows to and from the Large Generating Facility shall be measured at or, at Transmission Provider's option, compensated to, the Point of Interconnection. Transmission Provider shall provide metering quantities, in analog and/or digital form, to Interconnection Customer upon request. Interconnection Customer shall bear all reasonable documented costs associated with the purchase, installation, operation, testing and maintenance of the Metering Equipment.
- 7.2 Check Meters. Interconnection Customer, at its option and expense, may install and operate, on its premises and on its side of the Point of Interconnection, one or more check meters to check Transmission Provider's meters. Such check meters shall be for check purposes only and shall not be used for the measurement of power flows for purposes of this LGIA, except as provided in Article 7.4 below. The check meters shall be subject at all reasonable times to inspection and examination by Transmission Provider or its designee. The installation, operation and maintenance thereof shall be performed entirely by Interconnection Customer in accordance with Good Utility Practice.
- **7.3 Standards.** Transmission Provider shall install, calibrate, and test revenue quality Metering Equipment in accordance with applicable ANSI standards.
- 7.4 Testing of Metering Equipment. Transmission Provider shall inspect and test all Transmission Provider-owned Metering Equipment upon installation and at least once every two (2) years thereafter. If requested to do so by Interconnection Customer, Transmission Provider shall, at Interconnection Customer's expense, inspect or test Metering Equipment more frequently than every two (2) years. Transmission Provider shall give reasonable notice of the time when any inspection or test shall take place, and Interconnection Customer may have representatives present at the test or inspection. If at any time Metering Equipment is found to be inaccurate or defective, it shall be adjusted, repaired or replaced at Interconnection Customer's expense, in order to provide accurate metering, unless the inaccuracy or defect is due to Transmission Provider's failure to maintain, then Transmission Provider shall pay. If Metering Equipment fails to register, or if the measurement made by Metering Equipment during a test varies by more than two percent from the measurement made by the standard meter used in the test, Transmission Provider shall adjust the measurements by correcting all measurements for the period during which Metering Equipment was in error by using Interconnection Customer's check meters, if installed. If no such check meters are installed or if the period cannot be reasonably ascertained, the adjustment shall be for the period immediately preceding the test of the Metering Equipment equal to one-half the time from the date of the last previous test of the Metering Equipment.
- 7.5 Metering Data. At Interconnection Customer's expense, the metered data shall be telemetered to one or more locations designated by Transmission Provider and one or

more locations designated by Interconnection Customer. Such telemetered data shall be used, under normal operating conditions, as the official measurement of the amount of energy delivered from the Large Generating Facility to the Point of Interconnection.

Article 8. Communications

- 8.1 Interconnection Customer Obligations. Interconnection Customer shall maintain satisfactory operating communications with Transmission Provider's Transmission System dispatcher or representative designated by Transmission Provider. Interconnection Customer shall provide standard voice line, dedicated voice line and facsimile communications at its Large Generating Facility control room or central dispatch facility through use of either the public telephone system, or a voice communications system that does not rely on the public telephone system. Interconnection Customer shall also provide the dedicated data circuit(s) necessary to provide Interconnection Customer data to Transmission Provider as set forth in Appendix D, Security Arrangements Details. The data circuit(s) shall extend from the Large Generating Facility to the location(s) specified by Transmission Provider. Any required maintenance of such communications equipment shall be performed by Interconnection Customer. Operational communications shall be activated and maintained under, but not be limited to, the following events: system paralleling or separation, scheduled and unscheduled shutdowns, equipment clearances, and hourly and daily load data.
- 8.2 Remote Terminal Unit. Prior to the Initial Synchronization Date of the Large Generating Facility, a Remote Terminal Unit, or equivalent data collection and transfer equipment acceptable to the Parties, shall be installed by Interconnection Customer, or by Transmission Provider at Interconnection Customer's expense, to gather accumulated and instantaneous data to be telemetered to the location(s) designated by Transmission Provider through use of a dedicated point-to-point data circuit(s) as indicated in Article 8.1. The communication protocol for the data circuit(s) shall be specified by Transmission Provider. Instantaneous bi-directional analog real power and reactive power flow information must be telemetered directly to the location(s) specified by Transmission Provider.

Each Party will promptly advise the other Party if it detects or otherwise learns of any metering, telemetry or communications equipment errors or malfunctions that require the attention and/or correction by the other Party. The Party owning such equipment shall correct such error or malfunction as soon as reasonably feasible.

8.3 No Annexation. Any and all equipment placed on the premises of a Party shall be and remain the property of the Party providing such equipment regardless of the mode and manner of annexation or attachment to real property, unless otherwise mutually agreed by the Parties.

Article 8.4 Provision of Data from a Variable Energy Resource

The Interconnection Customer whose Generating Facility is a Variable Energy Resource shall provide meteorological and forced outage data to the Transmission Provider to the extent necessary for the Transmission Provider's development and deployment of power production forecasts for that class of Variable Energy Resources. The Interconnection Customer with a Variable Energy Resource having wind as the energy source, at a minimum, will be required to provide the Transmission Provider with site-specific meteorological data including: temperature, wind speed, wind direction, and atmospheric pressure. The Interconnection Customer with a Variable Energy Resource having solar as the energy source, at a minimum, will be required to provide the Transmission Provider with site-specific meteorological data including: temperature, atmospheric pressure, and irradiance. The Transmission Provider and Interconnection Customer whose Generating Facility is a Variable Energy Resource shall mutually agree to any additional meteorological data that are required for the development and deployment of a power production forecast. The Interconnection Customer whose Generating Facility is a Variable Energy Resource also shall submit data to the Transmission Provider regarding all forced outages to the extent necessary for the Transmission Provider's development and deployment of power production forecasts for that class of Variable Energy Resources. The exact specifications of the meteorological and forced outage data to be provided by the Interconnection Customer to the Transmission Provider, including the frequency and timing of data submittals, shall be made taking into account the size and configuration of the Variable Energy Resource, its characteristics, location, and its importance in maintaining generation resource adequacy and transmission system reliability in its area. All requirements for meteorological and forced outage data must be commensurate with the power production forecasting employed by the Transmission Provider. Such requirements for meteorological and forced outage data are set forth in Appendix C, Interconnection Details, of this LGIA, as they may change from time to time.

Article 9. Operations

- **9.1 General.** Each Party shall comply with the Applicable Reliability Council requirements. Each Party shall provide to the other Party all information that may reasonably be required by the other Party to comply with Applicable Laws and Regulations and Applicable Reliability Standards.
- 9.2 Control Area Notification. At least three months before Initial Synchronization Date, Interconnection Customer shall notify Transmission Provider in writing of the Control Area in which the Large Generating Facility will be located. If Interconnection Customer elects to locate the Large Generating Facility in a Control Area other than the Control Area in which the Large Generating Facility is physically located, and if permitted to do so by the relevant transmission tariffs, all necessary arrangements, including but not limited to those set forth in Article 7 and Article 8 of this LGIA, and remote Control Area generator interchange agreements, if applicable, and the appropriate measures under such agreements, shall be executed and implemented prior to the placement of the Large Generating Facility in the other Control Area.

- 9.3 Transmission Provider Obligations. Transmission Provider shall cause the Transmission System and Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities to be operated, maintained and controlled in a safe and reliable manner and in accordance with this LGIA. Transmission Provider may provide operating instructions to Interconnection Customer consistent with this LGIA and Transmission Provider's operating protocols and procedures as they may change from time to time. Transmission Provider will consider changes to its operating protocols and procedures proposed by Interconnection Customer.
- 9.4 Interconnection Customer Obligations. Interconnection Customer shall at its own expense operate, maintain and control the Large Generating Facility and Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities in a safe and reliable manner and in accordance with this LGIA. Interconnection Customer shall operate the Large Generating Facility and Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities in accordance with all applicable requirements of the Control Area of which it is part, as such requirements are set forth in Appendix C, Interconnection Details, of this LGIA. Appendix C, Interconnection Details, will be modified to reflect changes to the requirements as they may change from time to time. Either Party may request that the other Party provide copies of the requirements set forth in Appendix C, Interconnection Details, of this LGIA.
- 9.5 Start-Up and Synchronization. Consistent with the Parties' mutually acceptable procedures, Interconnection Customer is responsible for the proper synchronization of the Large Generating Facility to Transmission Provider's Transmission System.
- 9.6 Reactive Power.
 - 9.6.1 Power Factor Design Criteria.
 - 9.6.1.1 Synchronous Generation. Interconnection Customer shall design the Large Generating Facility to maintain a composite power delivery at continuous rated power output at the Point of Interconnection at a power factor within the range of 0.95 leading to 0.95 lagging, unless the Transmission Provider has established different requirements that apply to all synchronous generators in the Control Area on a comparable basis.
 - 9.6.1.2 Non-Synchronous Generation. Interconnection Customer shall design the Large Generating Facility to maintain a composite power delivery at continuous rated power output at the high-side of the generator substation at a power factor within the range of 0.95 leading to 0.95 lagging, unless the Transmission Provider has established a different power factor range that applies to all non-synchronous generators in the Control Area on a comparable basis. This power factor range standard shall be dynamic and can be met using, for example, power electronics designed to supply this level of reactive capability (taking into account any limitations due to voltage level, real power output, etc.) or fixed and switched

capacitors, or a combination of the two. This requirement shall only apply to newly interconnecting non-synchronous generators that have not yet executed a Facilities Study Agreement as of the effective date of the Final Rule establishing this requirement (Order No. 827).

- 9.6.2 Voltage Schedules. Once Interconnection Customer has synchronized the Large Generating Facility with the Transmission System, Transmission Provider shall require Interconnection Customer to operate the Large Generating Facility to produce or absorb reactive power within the design limitations of the Large Generating Facility set forth in Article 9.6.1 (Power Factor Design Criteria). Transmission Provider's voltage schedules shall treat all sources of reactive power in the Control Area in an equitable and not unduly discriminatory manner. Transmission Provider shall exercise Reasonable Efforts to provide Interconnection Customer with such schedules at least one (1) day in advance, and may make changes to such schedules as necessary to maintain the reliability of the Transmission System. Interconnection Customer shall operate the Large Generating Facility to maintain the specified output voltage or power factor at the Point of Interconnection within the design limitations of the Large Generating Facility set forth in Article 9.6.1 (Power Factor Design Criteria). If Interconnection Customer is unable to maintain the specified voltage or power factor, it shall promptly notify the System Operator.
 - 9.6.2.1 Governors and Regulators. Whenever the Large Generating Facility is operated in parallel with the Transmission System and the speed governors (if installed on the generating unit pursuant to Good Utility Practice) and voltage regulators are capable of operation, Interconnection Customer shall operate the Large Generating Facility with its speed governors and voltage regulators in automatic operation. If the Large Generating Facility's speed governors and voltage regulators are not capable of such automatic operation, Interconnection Customer shall immediately notify Transmission Provider's system operator, or its designated representative, and ensure that such Large Generating Facility's reactive power production or absorption (measured in MVARs) are within the design capability of the Large Generating Facility's generating unit(s) and steady state stability limits. Interconnection Customer shall not cause its Large Generating Facility to disconnect automatically or instantaneously from the Transmission System or trip any generating unit comprising the Large Generating Facility for an under or over frequency condition unless the abnormal frequency condition persists for a time period beyond the limits set forth in ANSI/IEEE Standard C37.106, or such other standard as applied to other generators in the Control Area on a comparable basis.

9.6.3 Payment for Reactive Power. Transmission Provider is required to pay Interconnection Customer for reactive power that Interconnection Customer provides or absorbs from the Large Generating Facility when Transmission Provider requests Interconnection Customer to operate its Large Generating Facility outside the range specified in Article 9.6.1, provided that if Transmission Provider pays its own or affiliated generators for reactive power service within the specified range, it must also pay Interconnection Customer. Payments shall be pursuant to Article 11.6 or such other agreement to which the Parties have otherwise agreed.

9.7 Outages and Interruptions.

9.7.1 Outages.

- 9.7.1.1 Outage Authority and Coordination. Each Party may in accordance with Good Utility Practice in coordination with the other Party remove from service any of its respective Interconnection Facilities or Network Upgrades that may impact the other Party's facilities as necessary to perform maintenance or testing or to install or replace equipment. Absent an Emergency Condition, the Party scheduling a removal of such facility(ies) from service will use Reasonable Efforts to schedule such removal on a date and time mutually acceptable to the Parties. In all circumstances, any Party planning to remove such facility(ies) from service shall use Reasonable Efforts to minimize the effect on the other Party of such removal.
- 9.7.1.2 Outage Schedules. Transmission Provider shall post scheduled outages of its transmission facilities on the OASIS. Interconnection Customer shall submit its planned maintenance schedules for the Large Generating Facility to Transmission Provider for a minimum of a rolling twenty-four month period. Interconnection Customer shall update its planned maintenance schedules as necessary. Transmission Provider may request Interconnection Customer to reschedule its maintenance as necessary to maintain the reliability of the Transmission System: provided, however, adequacy of generation supply shall not be a criterion in determining Transmission System reliability. Transmission Provider shall compensate Interconnection Customer for any additional direct costs that Interconnection Customer incurs as a result of having to reschedule maintenance, including any additional overtime, breaking of maintenance contracts or other costs above and beyond the cost Interconnection Customer would have incurred absent Transmission Provider's request to reschedule maintenance. Interconnection Customer will not be eligible to receive compensation, if during the twelve (12) months prior to the

date of the scheduled maintenance, Interconnection Customer had modified its schedule of maintenance activities.

- 9.7.1.3 Outage Restoration. If an outage on a Party's Interconnection Facilities or Network Upgrades adversely affects the other Party's operations or facilities, the Party that owns or controls the facility that is out of service shall use Reasonable Efforts to promptly restore such facility(ies) to a normal operating condition consistent with the nature of the outage. The Party that owns or controls the facility that is out of service shall provide the other Party, to the extent such information is known, information on the nature of the Emergency Condition, an estimated time of restoration, and any corrective actions required. Initial verbal notice shall be followed up as soon as practicable with written notice explaining the nature of the outage.
- 9.7.2 Interruption of Service. If required by Good Utility Practice to do so, Transmission Provider may require Interconnection Customer to interrupt or reduce deliveries of electricity if such delivery of electricity could adversely affect Transmission Provider's ability to perform such activities as are necessary to safely and reliably operate and maintain the Transmission System. The following provisions shall apply to any interruption or reduction permitted under this Article 9.7.2:
 - 9.7.2.1 The interruption or reduction shall continue only for so long as reasonably necessary under Good Utility Practice;
 - 9.7.2.2 Any such interruption or reduction shall be made on an equitable, non-discriminatory basis with respect to all generating facilities directly connected to the Transmission System;
 - 9.7.2.3 When the interruption or reduction must be made under circumstances which do not allow for advance notice,

 Transmission Provider shall notify Interconnection Customer by telephone as soon as practicable of the reasons for the curtailment, interruption, or reduction, and, if known, its expected duration.

 Telephone notification shall be followed by written notification as soon as practicable;
 - 9.7.2.4 Except during the existence of an Emergency Condition, when the interruption or reduction can be scheduled without advance notice, Transmission Provider shall notify Interconnection Customer in advance regarding the timing of such scheduling and further notify Interconnection Customer of the expected duration. Transmission Provider shall coordinate with Interconnection Customer using Good Utility Practice to schedule the interruption or reduction

during periods of least impact to Interconnection Customer and Transmission Provider;

- 9.7.2.5 The Parties shall cooperate and coordinate with each other to the extent necessary in order to restore the Large Generating Facility, Interconnection Facilities, and the Transmission System to their normal operating state, consistent with system conditions and Good Utility Practice.
- 9.7.3 Under-Frequency and Over Frequency Conditions. The Transmission System is designed to automatically activate a load-shed program as required by the Applicable Reliability Council in the event of an under-frequency system disturbance. Interconnection Customer shall implement under-frequency and over-frequency relay set points for the Large Generating Facility as required by the Applicable Reliability Council to ensure "ride through" capability of the Transmission System. Large Generating Facility response to frequency deviations of pre-determined magnitudes, both under-frequency and over-frequency deviations, shall be studied and coordinated with Transmission Provider in accordance with Good Utility Practice. The term "ride through" as used herein shall mean the ability of a Generating Facility to stay connected to and synchronized with the Transmission System during system disturbances within a range of under-frequency and over-frequency conditions, in accordance with Good Utility Practice.

9.7.4 System Protection and Other Control Requirements.

- 9.7.4.1 System Protection Facilities. Interconnection Customer shall, at its expense, install, operate and maintain System Protection Facilities as a part of the Large Generating Facility or Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities.

 Transmission Provider shall install at Interconnection Customer's expense any System Protection Facilities that may be required on Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities or the Transmission System as a result of the interconnection of the Large Generating Facility and Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities.
- 9.7.4.2 Each Party's protection facilities shall be designed and coordinated with other systems in accordance with Good Utility Practice.
- **9.7.4.3** Each Party shall be responsible for protection of its facilities consistent with Good Utility Practice.
- 9.7.4.4 Each Party's protective relay design shall incorporate the necessary test switches to perform the tests required in Article 6. The required test switches will be placed such that they allow operation of lockout relays while preventing breaker failure schemes from

operating and causing unnecessary breaker operations and/or the tripping of Interconnection Customer's units.

- 9.7.4.5 Each Party will test, operate and maintain System Protection Facilities in accordance with Good Utility Practice.
- 9.7.4.6 Prior to the In-Service Date, and again prior to the Commercial Operation Date, each Party or its agent shall perform a complete calibration test and functional trip test of the System Protection Facilities. At intervals suggested by Good Utility Practice and following any apparent malfunction of the System Protection Facilities, each Party shall perform both calibration and functional trip tests of its System Protection Facilities. These tests do not require the tripping of any in-service generation unit. These tests do, however, require that all protective relays and lockout contacts be activated.
- 9.7.5 Requirements for Protection. In compliance with Good Utility Practice, Interconnection Customer shall provide, install, own, and maintain relays, circuit breakers and all other devices necessary to remove any fault contribution of the Large Generating Facility to any short circuit occurring on the Transmission System not otherwise isolated by Transmission Provider's equipment, such that the removal of the fault contribution shall be coordinated with the protective requirements of the Transmission System. Such protective equipment shall include, without limitation, a disconnecting device or switch with loadinterrupting capability located between the Large Generating Facility and the Transmission System at a site selected upon mutual agreement (not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed) of the Parties. Interconnection Customer shall be responsible for protection of the Large Generating Facility and Interconnection Customer's other equipment from such conditions as negative sequence currents, over- or under-frequency, sudden load rejection, over- or under-voltage, and generator loss-of-field. Interconnection Customer shall be solely responsible to disconnect the Large Generating Facility and Interconnection Customer's other equipment if conditions on the Transmission System could adversely affect the Large Generating Facility.
- 9.7.6 Power Quality. Neither Party's facilities shall cause excessive voltage flicker nor introduce excessive distortion to the sinusoidal voltage or current waves as defined by ANSI Standard C84.1-1989, in accordance with IEEE Standard 519, or any applicable superseding electric industry standard. In the event of a conflict between ANSI Standard C84.1-1989, or any applicable superseding electric industry standard, ANSI Standard C84.1-1989, or the applicable superseding electric industry standard, shall control.
- **9.8 Switching and Tagging Rules.** Each Party shall provide the other Party a copy of its switching and tagging rules that are applicable to the other Party's activities. Such switching and tagging rules shall be developed on a non-discriminatory basis. The

Parties shall comply with applicable switching and tagging rules, as amended from time to time, in obtaining clearances for work or for switching operations on equipment.

- 9.9 Use of Interconnection Facilities by Third Parties.
 - 9.9.1 Purpose of Interconnection Facilities. Except as may be required by Applicable Laws and Regulations, or as otherwise agreed to among the Parties, the Interconnection Facilities shall be constructed for the sole purpose of interconnecting the Large Generating Facility to the Transmission System and shall be used for no other purpose.
 - 9.9.2 Third Party Users. If required by Applicable Laws and Regulations or if the Parties mutually agree, such agreement not to be unreasonably withheld, to allow one or more third parties to use Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities, or any part thereof, Interconnection Customer will be entitled to compensation for the capital expenses it incurred in connection with the Interconnection Facilities based upon the pro rata use of the Interconnection Facilities by Transmission Provider, all third party users, and Interconnection Customer, in accordance with Applicable Laws and Regulations or upon some other mutually-agreed upon methodology. In addition, cost responsibility for ongoing costs, including operation and maintenance costs associated with the Interconnection Facilities, will be allocated between Interconnection Customer and any third party users based upon the pro rata use of the Interconnection Facilities by Transmission Provider, all third party users, and Interconnection Customer, in accordance with Applicable Laws and Regulations or upon some other mutually agreed upon methodology. If the issue of such compensation or allocation cannot be resolved through such negotiations, it shall be submitted to FERC for resolution.
- 9.10 Disturbance Analysis Data Exchange. The Parties will cooperate with one another in the analysis of disturbances to either the Large Generating Facility or Transmission Provider's Transmission System by gathering and providing access to any information relating to any disturbance, including information from oscillography, protective relay targets, breaker operations and sequence of events records, and any disturbance information required by Good Utility Practice.

Article 10. Maintenance

- 10.1 Transmission Provider Obligations. Transmission Provider shall maintain the Transmission System and Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities in a safe and reliable manner and in accordance with this LGIA.
- 10.2 Interconnection Customer Obligations. Interconnection Customer shall maintain the Large Generating Facility and Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities in a safe and reliable manner and in accordance with this LGIA.

- 10.3 Coordination. The Parties shall confer regularly to coordinate the planning, scheduling and performance of preventive and corrective maintenance on the Large Generating Facility and the Interconnection Facilities.
- 10.4 Secondary Systems. Each Party shall cooperate with the other in the inspection, maintenance, and testing of control or power circuits that operate below 600 volts, AC or DC, including, but not limited to, any hardware, control or protective devices, cables, conductors, electric raceways, secondary equipment panels, transducers, batteries, chargers, and voltage and current transformers that directly affect the operation of a Party's facilities and equipment which may reasonably be expected to impact the other Party. Each Party shall provide advance notice to the other Party before undertaking any work on such circuits, especially on electrical circuits involving circuit breaker trip and close contacts, current transformers, or potential transformers.
- 10.5 Operating and Maintenance Expenses. Subject to the provisions herein addressing the use of facilities by others, and except for operations and maintenance expenses associated with modifications made for providing interconnection or transmission service to a third party and such third party pays for such expenses, Interconnection Customer shall be responsible for all reasonable expenses including overheads, associated with: (1) owning, operating, maintaining, repairing, and replacing Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities; and (2) operation, maintenance, repair and replacement of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities.

Article 11. Performance Obligation

- 11.1 Interconnection Customer Interconnection Facilities. Interconnection Customer shall design, procure, construct, install, own and/or control Interconnection Customer Interconnection Facilities described in Appendix A, Interconnection Facilities, Network Upgrades and Distribution Upgrades, at its sole expense.
- 11.2 Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities. Transmission Provider or Transmission Owner shall design, procure, construct, install, own and/or control the Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities described in Appendix A, Interconnection Facilities, Network Upgrades and Distribution Upgrades, at the sole expense of the Interconnection Customer.
- 11.3 Network Upgrades and Distribution Upgrades. Transmission Provider or Transmission Owner shall design, procure, construct, install, and own the Network Upgrades and Distribution Upgrades described in Appendix A, Interconnection Facilities, Network Upgrades and Distribution Upgrades. The Interconnection Customer shall be responsible for all costs related to Distribution Upgrades. Unless Transmission Provider or Transmission Owner elects to fund the capital for the Network Upgrades, they shall be solely funded by Interconnection Customer.

11.4 Transmission Credits.

11.4.1 Repayment of Amounts Advanced for Network Upgrades. Interconnection Customer shall be entitled to a cash repayment, equal to the total amount paid to Transmission Provider and Affected System Operator, if any, for the Network Upgrades, including any tax gross-up or other tax-related payments associated with Network Upgrades, and not refunded to Interconnection Customer pursuant to Article 5.17.8 or otherwise, to be paid to Interconnection Customer on a dollar-for-dollar basis for the non-usage sensitive portion of transmission charges, as payments are made under Transmission Provider's Tariff and Affected System's Tariff for transmission services with respect to the Large Generating Facility. Any repayment shall include interest calculated in accordance with the methodology set forth in FERC's regulations at 18 C.F.R. § 35.19a(a)(2)(iii) from the date of any payment for Network Upgrades through the date on which the Interconnection Customer receives a repayment of such payment pursuant to this subparagraph. Interconnection Customer may assign such repayment rights to any person.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Interconnection Customer, Transmission Provider, and Affected System Operator may adopt any alternative payment schedule that is mutually agreeable so long as Transmission Provider and Affected System Operator take one of the following actions no later than five years from the Commercial Operation Date: (1) return to Interconnection Customer any amounts advanced for Network Upgrades not previously repaid, or (2) declare in writing that Transmission Provider or Affected System Operator will continue to provide payments to Interconnection Customer on a dollar-for-dollar basis for the non-usage sensitive portion of transmission charges, or develop an alternative schedule that is mutually agreeable and provides for the return of all amounts advanced for Network Upgrades not previously repaid; however, full reimbursement shall not extend beyond twenty (20) years from the Commercial Operation Date.

If the Large Generating Facility fails to achieve commercial operation, but it or another Generating Facility is later constructed and makes use of the Network Upgrades, Transmission Provider and Affected System Operator shall at that time reimburse Interconnection Customer for the amounts advanced for the Network Upgrades. Before any such reimbursement can occur, the Interconnection Customer, or the entity that ultimately constructs the Generating Facility, if different, is responsible for identifying the entity to which reimbursement must be made.

11.4.2 Special Provisions for Affected Systems. Unless Transmission Provider provides, under the LGIA, for the repayment of amounts advanced to Affected System Operator for Network Upgrades, Interconnection Customer and Affected System Operator shall enter into an agreement that provides for such repayment. The agreement shall specify the terms governing payments to be made by Interconnection Customer to the Affected System Operator as well as the repayment by the Affected System Operator.

- 11.4.3 Notwithstanding any other provision of this LGIA, nothing herein shall be construed as relinquishing or foreclosing any rights, including but not limited to firm transmission rights, capacity rights, transmission congestion rights, or transmission credits, that Interconnection Customer, shall be entitled to, now or in the future under any other agreement or tariff as a result of, or otherwise associated with, the transmission capacity, if any, created by the Network Upgrades, including the right to obtain cash reimbursements or transmission credits for transmission service that is not associated with the Large Generating Facility.
- 11.5 Provision of Security. At least thirty (30) Calendar Days prior to the commencement of the procurement, installation, or construction of a discrete portion of a Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities, Network Upgrades, or Distribution Upgrades, Interconnection Customer shall provide Transmission Provider, at Interconnection Customer's option, a guarantee, a surety bond, letter of credit or other form of security that is reasonably acceptable to Transmission Provider and is consistent with the Uniform Commercial Code of the jurisdiction identified in Article 14.2.1. Such security for payment shall be in an amount sufficient to cover the costs for constructing, procuring and installing the applicable portion of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities, Network Upgrades, or Distribution Upgrades and shall be reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis for payments made to Transmission Provider for these purposes.

In addition:

- 11.5.1 The guarantee must be made by an entity that meets the creditworthiness requirements of Transmission Provider, and contain terms and conditions that guarantee payment of any amount that may be due from Interconnection Customer, up to an agreed-to maximum amount.
- 11.5.2 The letter of credit must be issued by a financial institution reasonably acceptable to Transmission Provider and must specify a reasonable expiration date.
- 11.5.3 The surety bond must be issued by an insurer reasonably acceptable to Transmission Provider and must specify a reasonable expiration date.
- 11.6 Interconnection Customer Compensation. If Transmission Provider requests or directs Interconnection Customer to provide a service pursuant to Articles 9.6.3 (Payment for Reactive Power), or 13.5.1 of this LGIA, Transmission Provider shall compensate Interconnection Customer in accordance with Interconnection Customer's applicable rate schedule then in effect unless the provision of such service(s) is subject to an RTO or ISO FERC-approved rate schedule. Interconnection Customer shall serve Transmission Provider or RTO or ISO with any filing of a proposed rate schedule at the time of such filing with FERC. To the extent that no rate schedule is in effect at the time the Interconnection Customer is required to provide or absorb any Reactive Power under this LGIA, Transmission Provider agrees to compensate Interconnection Customer in such amount as would have been due Interconnection Customer had the rate schedule been in effect at the time service commenced; provided, however, that such rate schedule must be

filed at FERC or other appropriate Governmental Authority within sixty (60) Calendar Days of the commencement of service.

11.6.1 Interconnection Customer Compensation for Actions During Emergency Condition. Transmission Provider or RTO or ISO shall compensate Interconnection Customer for its provision of real and reactive power and other Emergency Condition services that Interconnection Customer provides to support the Transmission System during an Emergency Condition in accordance with Article 11.6.

Article 12. Invoice

- 12.1 General. Each Party shall submit to the other Party, on a monthly basis, invoices of amounts due for the preceding month. Each invoice shall state the month to which the invoice applies and fully describe the services and equipment provided. The Parties may discharge mutual debts and payment obligations due and owing to each other on the same date through netting, in which case all amounts a Party owes to the other Party under this LGIA, including interest payments or credits, shall be netted so that only the net amount remaining due shall be paid by the owing Party.
- 12.2 Final Invoice. Within six months after completion of the construction of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and the Network Upgrades, Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and the Network Upgrades and shall set forth such costs in sufficient detail to enable Interconnection Customer to compare the actual costs with the estimates and to ascertain deviations, if any, from the cost estimates. Transmission Provider shall refund to Interconnection Customer any amount by which the actual payment by Interconnection Customer for estimated costs exceeds the actual costs of construction within thirty (30) Calendar Days of the issuance of such final construction invoice.
- 12.3 Payment. Invoices shall be rendered to the paying Party at the address specified in Appendix F. The Party receiving the invoice shall pay the invoice within thirty (30) Calendar Days of receipt. All payments shall be made in immediately available funds payable to the other Party, or by wire transfer to a bank named and account designated by the invoicing Party. Payment of invoices by either Party will not constitute a waiver of any rights or claims either Party may have under this LGIA.
- 12.4 Disputes. In the event of a billing dispute between Transmission Provider and Interconnection Customer, Transmission Provider shall continue to provide Interconnection Service under this LGIA as long as Interconnection Customer: (i) continues to make all payments not in dispute; and (ii) pays to Transmission Provider or into an independent escrow account the portion of the invoice in dispute, pending resolution of such dispute. If Interconnection Customer fails to meet these two requirements for continuation of service, then Transmission Provider may provide notice to Interconnection Customer of a Default pursuant to Article 17. Within thirty (30)

Calendar Days after the resolution of the dispute, the Party that owes money to the other Party shall pay the amount due with interest calculated in accord with the methodology set forth in FERC's regulations at 18 C.F.R. § 35.19a(a)(2)(iii).

Article 13. Emergencies

- 13.1 Definition. "Emergency Condition" shall mean a condition or situation: (i) that in the judgment of the Party making the claim is imminently likely to endanger life or property; or (ii) that, in the case of Transmission Provider, is imminently likely (as determined in a non-discriminatory manner) to cause a material adverse effect on the security of, or damage to the Transmission System, Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities or the Transmission Systems of others to which the Transmission System is directly connected; or (iii) that, in the case of Interconnection Customer, is imminently likely (as determined in a non-discriminatory manner) to cause a material adverse effect on the security of, or damage to, the Large Generating Facility or Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities' System restoration and black start shall be considered Emergency Conditions; provided, that Interconnection Customer is not obligated by this LGIA to possess black start capability.
- **Obligations**. Each Party shall comply with the Emergency Condition procedures of the applicable ISO/RTO, NERC, the Applicable Reliability Council, Applicable Laws and Regulations, and any emergency procedures agreed to by the Joint Operating Committee.
- 13.3 Notice. Transmission Provider shall notify Interconnection Customer promptly when it becomes aware of an Emergency Condition that affects Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities or the Transmission System that may reasonably be expected to affect Interconnection Customer's operation of the Large Generating Facility or Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities. Interconnection Customer shall notify Transmission Provider promptly when it becomes aware of an Emergency Condition that affects the Large Generating Facility or Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities that may reasonably be expected to affect the Transmission System or Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities. To the extent information is known, the notification shall describe the Emergency Condition, the extent of the damage or deficiency, the expected effect on the operation of Interconnection Customer's or Transmission Provider's facilities and operations, its anticipated duration and the corrective action taken and/or to be taken. The initial notice shall be followed as soon as practicable with written notice.
- 13.4 Immediate Action. Unless, in Interconnection Customer's reasonable judgment, immediate action is required, Interconnection Customer shall obtain the consent of Transmission Provider, such consent to not be unreasonably withheld, prior to performing any manual switching operations at the Large Generating Facility or Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities in response to an Emergency Condition either declared by Transmission Provider or otherwise regarding the Transmission System.

13.5 Transmission Provider Authority.

13.5.1 General. Transmission Provider may take whatever actions or inactions with regard to the Transmission System or Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities it deems necessary during an Emergency Condition in order to (i) preserve public health and safety, (ii) preserve the reliability of the Transmission System or Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities, (iii) limit or prevent damage, and (iv) expedite restoration of service.

Transmission Provider shall use Reasonable Efforts to minimize the effect of such actions or inactions on the Large Generating Facility or Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities. Transmission Provider may, on the basis of technical considerations, require the Large Generating Facility to mitigate an Emergency Condition by taking actions necessary and limited in scope to remedy the Emergency Condition, including, but not limited to, directing Interconnection Customer to shut-down, start-up, increase or decrease the real or reactive power output of the Large Generating Facility; implementing a reduction or disconnection pursuant to Article 13.5.2; directing Interconnection Customer to assist with blackstart (if available) or restoration efforts; or altering the outage schedules of the Large Generating Facility and Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities. Interconnection Customer shall comply with all of Transmission Provider's operating instructions concerning Large Generating Facility real power and reactive power output within the manufacturer's design limitations of the Large Generating Facility's equipment that is in service and physically available for operation at the time, in compliance with Applicable Laws and Regulations.

- 13.5.2 Reduction and Disconnection. Transmission Provider may reduce Interconnection Service or disconnect the Large Generating Facility or Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities, when such, reduction or disconnection is necessary under Good Utility Practice due to Emergency Conditions. These rights are separate and distinct from any right of curtailment of Transmission Provider pursuant to Transmission Provider's Tariff. When Transmission Provider can schedule the reduction or disconnection in advance. Transmission Provider shall notify Interconnection Customer of the reasons, timing and expected duration of the reduction or disconnection. Transmission Provider shall coordinate with Interconnection Customer using Good Utility Practice to schedule the reduction or disconnection during periods of least impact to Interconnection Customer and Transmission Provider. Any reduction or disconnection shall continue only for so long as reasonably necessary under Good Utility Practice. The Parties shall cooperate with each other to restore the Large Generating Facility, the Interconnection Facilities, and the Transmission System to their normal operating state as soon as practicable consistent with Good Utility Practice.
- **13.6** Interconnection Customer Authority. Consistent with Good Utility Practice and the LGIA and the LGIP, Interconnection Customer may take actions or inactions with regard

to the Large Generating Facility or Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities during an Emergency Condition in order to (i) preserve public health and safety, (ii) preserve the reliability of the Large Generating Facility or Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities, (iii) limit or prevent damage, and (iv) expedite restoration of service. Interconnection Customer shall use Reasonable Efforts to minimize the effect of such actions or inactions on the Transmission System and Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities. Transmission Provider shall use Reasonable Efforts to assist Interconnection Customer in such actions.

13.7 Limited Liability. Except as otherwise provided in Article 11.6.1 of this LGIA, neither Party shall be liable to the other for any action it takes in responding to an Emergency Condition so long as such action is made in good faith and is consistent with Good Utility Practice.

Article 14. Regulatory Requirements and Governing Law

14.1 Regulatory Requirements. Each Party's obligations under this LGIA shall be subject to its receipt of any required approval or certificate from one or more Governmental Authorities in the form and substance satisfactory to the applying Party, or the Party making any required filings with, or providing notice to, such Governmental Authorities, and the expiration of any time period associated therewith. Each Party shall in good faith seek and use its Reasonable Efforts to obtain such other approvals. Nothing in this LGIA shall require Interconnection Customer to take any action that could result in its inability to obtain, or its loss of, status or exemption under the Federal Power Act, the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as amended, or the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978.

14.2 Governing Law.

- 14.2.1 The validity, interpretation and performance of this LGIA and each of its provisions shall be governed by the laws of the state where the Point of Interconnection is located, without regard to its conflicts of law principles.
- 14.2.2 This LGIA is subject to all Applicable Laws and Regulations.
- 14.2.3 Each Party expressly reserves the right to seek changes in, appeal, or otherwise contest any laws, orders, rules, or regulations of a Governmental Authority.

Article 15. Notices.

15.1 General. Unless otherwise provided in this LGIA, any notice, demand or request required or permitted to be given by either Party to the other and any instrument required or permitted to be tendered or delivered by either Party in writing to the other shall be effective when delivered and may be so given, tendered or delivered, by recognized national courier, or by depositing the same with the United States Postal Service with postage prepaid, for delivery by certified or registered mail, addressed to the Party, or

personally delivered to the Party, at the address set out in Appendix F, Addresses for Delivery of Notices and Billings.

Either Party may change the notice information in this LGIA by giving five (5) Business Days written notice prior to the effective date of the change.

- **15.2 Billings and Payments**. Billings and payments shall be sent to the addresses set out in Appendix F.
- 15.3 Alternative Forms of Notice. Any notice or request required or permitted to be given by a Party to the other and not required by this Agreement to be given in writing may be so given by telephone, facsimile or email to the telephone numbers and email addresses set out in Appendix F.
- 15.4 Operations and Maintenance Notice. Each Party shall notify the other Party in writing of the identity of the person(s) that it designates as the point(s) of contact with respect to the implementation of Articles 9 and 10.

Article 16. Force Majeure

16.1 Force Majeure.

- 16.1.1 Economic hardship is not considered a Force Majeure event.
- 16.1.2 Neither Party shall be considered to be in Default with respect to any obligation hereunder, (including obligations under Article 4), other than the obligation to pay money when due, if prevented from fulfilling such obligation by Force Majeure. A Party unable to fulfill any obligation hereunder (other than an obligation to pay money when due) by reason of Force Majeure shall give notice and the full particulars of such Force Majeure to the other Party in writing or by telephone as soon as reasonably possible after the occurrence of the cause relied upon. Telephone notices given pursuant to this article shall be confirmed in writing as soon as reasonably possible and shall specifically state full particulars of the Force Majeure, the time and date when the Force Majeure occurred and when the Force Majeure is reasonably expected to cease. The Party affected shall exercise due diligence to remove such disability with reasonable dispatch, but shall not be required to accede or agree to any provision not satisfactory to it in order to settle and terminate a strike or other labor disturbance.

Article 17. Default

17.1 Default

17.1.1 General. No Default shall exist where such failure to discharge an obligation (other than the payment of money) is the result of Force Majeure as defined in this LGIA or the result of an act of omission of the other Party. Upon a Breach,

the non-breaching Party shall give written notice of such Breach to the breaching Party. Except as provided in Article 17.1.2, the breaching Party shall have thirty (30) Calendar Days from receipt of the Default notice within which to cure such Breach; provided however, if such Breach is not capable of cure within thirty (30) Calendar Days, the breaching Party shall commence such cure within thirty (30) Calendar Days after notice and continuously and diligently complete such cure within ninety (90) Calendar Days from receipt of the Default notice; and, if cured within such time, the Breach specified in such notice shall cease to exist.

17.1.2 Right to Terminate. If a Breach is not cured as provided in this article, or if a Breach is not capable of being cured within the period provided for herein, the non-breaching Party shall have the right to declare a Default and terminate this LGIA by written notice at any time until cure occurs, and be relieved of any further obligation hereunder and, whether or not that Party terminates this LGIA, to recover from the breaching Party all amounts due hereunder, plus all other damages and remedies to which it is entitled at law or in equity. The provisions of this article will survive termination of this LGIA.

Article 18. Indemnity, Consequential Damages and Insurance

- 18.1 Indemnity. The Parties shall at all times indemnify, defend, and hold the other Party harmless from, any and all damages, losses, claims, including claims and actions relating to injury to or death of any person or damage to property, demand, suits, recoveries, costs and expenses, court costs, attorney fees, and all other obligations by or to third parties, arising out of or resulting from the other Party's action or inactions of its obligations under this LGIA on behalf of the Indemnifying Party, except in cases of gross negligence or intentional wrongdoing by the Indemnified Party.
 - 18.1.1 Indemnified Person. If an Indemnified Person is entitled to indemnification under this Article 18 as a result of a claim by a third party, and the Indemnifying Party fails, after notice and reasonable opportunity to proceed under Article 18.1, to assume the defense of such claim, such Indemnified Person may at the expense of the Indemnifying Party contest, settle or consent to the entry of any judgment with respect to, or pay in full, such claim.
 - 18.1.2 Indemnifying Party. If an Indemnifying Party is obligated to indemnify and hold any Indemnified Person harmless under this Article 18, the amount owing to the Indemnified Person shall be the amount of such Indemnified Person's actual Loss, net of any insurance or other recovery.
 - 18.1.3 Indemnity Procedures. Promptly after receipt by an Indemnified Person of any claim or notice of the commencement of any action or administrative or legal proceeding or investigation as to which the indemnity provided for in Article 18.1 may apply, the Indemnified Person shall notify the Indemnifying Party of such fact. Any failure of or delay in such notification shall not affect a Party's

indemnification obligation unless such failure or delay is materially prejudicial to the Indemnifying Party.

The Indemnifying Party shall have the right to assume the defense thereof with counsel designated by such Indemnifying Party and reasonably satisfactory to the Indemnified Person. If the defendants in any such action include one or more Indemnified Persons and the Indemnifying Party and if the Indemnified Person reasonably concludes that there may be legal defenses available to it and/or other Indemnified Persons which are different from or additional to those available to the Indemnifying Party, the Indemnified Person shall have the right to select separate counsel to assert such legal defenses and to otherwise participate in the defense of such action on its own behalf. In such instances, the Indemnifying Party shall only be required to pay the fees and expenses of one additional attorney to represent an Indemnified Person or Indemnified Persons having such differing or additional legal defenses.

The Indemnified Person shall be entitled, at its expense, to participate in any such action, suit or proceeding, the defense of which has been assumed by the Indemnifying Party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Indemnifying Party (i) shall not be entitled to assume and control the defense of any such action, suit or proceedings if and to the extent that, in the opinion of the Indemnified Person and its counsel, such action, suit or proceeding involves the potential imposition of criminal liability on the Indemnified Person, or there exists a conflict or adversity of interest between the Indemnified Person and the Indemnifying Party, in such event the Indemnifying Party shall pay the reasonable expenses of the Indemnified Person, and (ii) shall not settle or consent to the entry of any judgment in any action, suit or proceeding without the consent of the Indemnified Person, which shall not be reasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed.

- 18.2 Consequential Damages. Other than the Liquidated Damages heretofore described, in no event shall either Party be liable under any provision of this LGIA for any losses, damages, costs or expenses for any special, indirect, incidental, consequential, or punitive damages, including but not limited to loss of profit or revenue, loss of the use of equipment, cost of capital, cost of temporary equipment or services, whether based in whole or in part in contract, in tort, including negligence, strict liability, or any other theory of liability; provided, however, that damages for which a Party may be liable to the other Party under another agreement will not be considered to be special, indirect, incidental, or consequential damages hereunder.
- 18.3 Insurance. Each party shall, at its own expense, maintain in force throughout the period of this LGIA, and until released by the other Party, the following minimum insurance coverages, with insurers authorized to do business in the state where the Point of Interconnection is located:
 - **18.3.1 Employers' Liability and Workers' Compensation Insurance** providing statutory benefits in accordance with the laws and regulations of the state in which the Point of Interconnection is located.

- 18.3.2 Commercial General Liability Insurance including premises and operations, personal injury, broad form property damage, broad form blanket contractual liability coverage (including coverage for the contractual indemnification) products and completed operations coverage, coverage for explosion, collapse and underground hazards, independent contractors coverage, coverage for pollution to the extent normally available and punitive damages to the extent normally available and a cross liability endorsement, with minimum limits of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence/One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) aggregate combined single limit for personal injury, bodily injury, including death and property damage.
- 18.3.3 Comprehensive Automobile Liability Insurance for coverage of owned and non-owned and hired vehicles, trailers or semi-trailers designed for travel on public roads, with a minimum, combined single limit of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence for bodily injury, including death, and property damage.
- 18.3.4 Excess Public Liability Insurance over and above the Employers' Liability Commercial General Liability and Comprehensive Automobile Liability Insurance coverage, with a minimum combined single limit of Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000) per occurrence/Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000) aggregate.
- 18.3.5 The Commercial General Liability Insurance, Comprehensive Automobile Insurance and Excess Public Liability Insurance policies shall name the other Party, its parent, associated and Affiliate companies and their respective directors, officers, agents, servants and employees ("Other Party Group") as additional insured. All policies shall contain provisions whereby the insurers waive all rights of subrogation in accordance with the provisions of this LGIA against the Other Party Group and provide thirty (30) Calendar Days advance written notice to the Other Party Group prior to anniversary date of cancellation or any material change in coverage or condition.
- 18.3.6 The Commercial General Liability Insurance, Comprehensive Automobile Liability Insurance and Excess Public Liability Insurance policies shall contain provisions that specify that the policies are primary and shall apply to such extent without consideration for other policies separately carried and shall state that each insured is provided coverage as though a separate policy had been issued to each, except the insurer's liability shall not be increased beyond the amount for which the insurer would have been liable had only one insured been covered. Each Party shall be responsible for its respective deductibles or retentions.
- 18.3.7 The Commercial General Liability Insurance, Comprehensive Automobile Liability Insurance and Excess Public Liability Insurance policies, if written on a Claims First Made Basis, shall be maintained in full force and effect for two (2) years after termination of this LGIA, which coverage may be in the form of tail coverage or extended reporting period coverage if agreed by the Parties.

- 18.3.8 The requirements contained herein as to the types and limits of all insurance to be maintained by the Parties are not intended to and shall not in any manner, limit or qualify the liabilities and obligations assumed by the Parties under this LGIA.
- 18.3.9 Within ten (10) days following execution of this LGIA, and as soon as practicable after the end of each fiscal year or at the renewal of the insurance policy and in any event within ninety (90) days thereafter, each Party shall provide certification of all insurance required in this LGIA, executed by each insurer or by an authorized representative of each insurer.
- 18.3.10 Notwithstanding the foregoing, each Party may self-insure to meet the minimum insurance requirements of Articles 18.3.2 through 18.3.8 to the extent it maintains a self-insurance program; provided that, such Party's senior secured debt is rated at investment grade or better by Standard & Poor's and that its self-insurance program meets the minimum insurance requirements of Articles 18.3.2 through 18.3.8. For any period of time that a Party's senior secured debt is unrated by Standard & Poor's or is rated at less than investment grade by Standard & Poor's, such Party shall comply with the insurance requirements applicable to it under Articles 18.3.2 through 18.3.9. In the event that a Party is permitted to self-insure pursuant to this article, it shall notify the other Party that it meets the requirements to self-insure and that its self-insurance program meets the minimum insurance requirements in a manner consistent with that specified in Article 18.3.9.
- 18.3.11 The Parties agree to report to each other in writing as soon as practical all accidents or occurrences resulting in injuries to any person, including death, and any property damage arising out of this LGIA.

Article 19. Assignment

Assignment. This LGIA may be assigned by either Party only with the written consent 19.1 of the other; provided that either Party may assign this LGIA without the consent of the other Party to any Affiliate of the assigning Party with an equal or greater credit rating and with the legal authority and operational ability to satisfy the obligations of the assigning Party under this LGIA; and provided further that Interconnection Customer shall have the right to assign this LGIA, without the consent of Transmission Provider, for collateral security purposes to aid in providing financing for the Large Generating Facility, provided that Interconnection Customer will promptly notify Transmission Provider of any such assignment. Any financing arrangement entered into by Interconnection Customer pursuant to this article will provide that prior to or upon the exercise of the secured party's, trustee's or mortgagee's assignment rights pursuant to said arrangement, the secured creditor, the trustee or mortgagee will notify Transmission Provider of the date and particulars of any such exercise of assignment right(s), including providing the Transmission Provider with proof that it meets the requirements of Articles 11.5 and 18.3. Any attempted assignment that violates this article is void and ineffective. Any assignment under this LGIA shall not relieve a Party of its obligations, nor shall a

Party's obligations be enlarged, in whole or in part, by reason thereof. Where required, consent to assignment will not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed.

Article 20. Severability

20.1 Severability. If any provision in this LGIA is finally determined to be invalid, void or unenforceable by any court or other Governmental Authority having jurisdiction, such determination shall not invalidate, void or make unenforceable any other provision, agreement or covenant of this LGIA; provided that if Interconnection Customer (or any third party, but only if such third party is not acting at the direction of Transmission Provider) seeks and obtains such a final determination with respect to any provision of the Alternate Option (Article 5.1.2), or the Negotiated Option (Article 5.1.4), then none of these provisions shall thereafter have any force or effect and the Parties' rights and obligations shall be governed solely by the Standard Option (Article 5.1.1).

Article 21. Comparability

21.1 Comparability. The Parties will comply with all applicable comparability and code of conduct laws, rules and regulations, as amended from time to time.

Article 22. Confidentiality

22.1 Confidentiality. Confidential Information shall include, without limitation, all information relating to a Party's technology, research and development, business affairs, and pricing, and any information supplied by either of the Parties to the other prior to the execution of this LGIA.

Information is Confidential Information only if it is clearly designated or marked in writing as confidential on the face of the document, or, if the information is conveyed orally or by inspection, if the Party providing the information orally informs the Party receiving the information that the information is confidential.

If requested by either Party, the other Party shall provide in writing, the basis for asserting that the information referred to in this Article 22 warrants confidential treatment, and the requesting Party may disclose such writing to the appropriate Governmental Authority. Each Party shall be responsible for the costs associated with affording confidential treatment to its information.

- **22.1.1 Term.** During the term of this LGIA, and for a period of three (3) years after the expiration or termination of this LGIA, except as otherwise provided in this Article 22, each Party shall hold in confidence and shall not disclose to any person Confidential Information.
- **22.1.2 Scope.** Confidential Information shall not include information that the receiving Party can demonstrate: (1) is generally available to the public other than as a

result of a disclosure by the receiving Party; (2) was in the lawful possession of the receiving Party on a non-confidential basis before receiving it from the disclosing Party; (3) was supplied to the receiving Party without restriction by a third party, who, to the knowledge of the receiving Party after due inquiry, was under no obligation to the disclosing Party to keep such information confidential; (4) was independently developed by the receiving Party without reference to Confidential Information of the disclosing Party; (5) is, or becomes, publicly known, through no wrongful act or omission of the receiving Party or Breach of this LGIA; or (6) is required, in accordance with Article 22.1.7 of the LGIA, Order of Disclosure, to be disclosed by any Governmental Authority or is otherwise required to be disclosed by law or subpoena, or is necessary in any legal proceeding establishing rights and obligations under this LGIA. Information designated as Confidential Information will no longer be deemed confidential if the Party that designated the information as confidential notifies the other Party that it no longer is confidential.

- 22.1.3 Release of Confidential Information. Neither Party shall release or disclose Confidential Information to any other person, except to its Affiliates (limited by the Standards of Conduct requirements), subcontractors, employees, consultants, or to parties who may be or considering providing financing to or equity participation with Interconnection Customer, or to potential purchasers or assignees of Interconnection Customer, on a need-to-know basis in connection with this LGIA, unless such person has first been advised of the confidentiality provisions of this Article 22 and has agreed to comply with such provisions. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Party providing Confidential Information to any person shall remain primarily responsible for any release of Confidential Information in contravention of this Article 22.
- 22.1.4 Rights. Each Party retains all rights, title, and interest in the Confidential Information that each Party discloses to the other Party. The disclosure by each Party to the other Party of Confidential Information shall not be deemed a waiver by either Party or any other person or entity of the right to protect the Confidential Information from public disclosure.
- 22.1.5 No Warranties. By providing Confidential Information, neither Party makes any warranties or representations as to its accuracy or completeness. In addition, by supplying Confidential Information, neither Party obligates itself to provide any particular information or Confidential Information to the other Party nor to enter into any further agreements or proceed with any other relationship or joint venture.
- 22.1.6 Standard of Care. Each Party shall use at least the same standard of care to protect Confidential Information it receives as it uses to protect its own Confidential Information from unauthorized disclosure, publication or dissemination. Each Party may use Confidential Information solely to fulfill its obligations to the other Party under this LGIA or its regulatory requirements.

- 22.1.7 Order of Disclosure. If a court or a Government Authority or entity with the right, power, and apparent authority to do so requests or requires either Party, by subpoena, oral deposition, interrogatories, requests for production of documents, administrative order, or otherwise, to disclose Confidential Information, that Party shall provide the other Party with prompt notice of such request(s) or requirement(s) so that the other Party may seek an appropriate protective order or waive compliance with the terms of this LGIA. Notwithstanding the absence of a protective order or waiver, the Party may disclose such Confidential Information which, in the opinion of its counsel, the Party is legally compelled to disclose. Each Party will use Reasonable Efforts to obtain reliable assurance that confidential treatment will be accorded any Confidential Information so furnished.
- 22.1.8 Termination of Agreement. Upon termination of this LGIA for any reason, each Party shall, within ten (10) Calendar Days of receipt of a written request from the other Party, use Reasonable Efforts to destroy, erase, or delete (with such destruction, erasure, and deletion certified in writing to the other Party) or return to the other Party, without retaining copies thereof, any and all written or electronic Confidential Information received from the other Party.
- 22.1.9 Remedies. The Parties agree that monetary damages would be inadequate to compensate a Party for the other Party's Breach of its obligations under this Article 22. Each Party accordingly agrees that the other Party shall be entitled to equitable relief, by way of injunction or otherwise, if the first Party Breaches or threatens to Breach its obligations under this Article 22, which equitable relief shall be granted without bond or proof of damages, and the receiving Party shall not plead in defense that there would be an adequate remedy at law. Such remedy shall not be deemed an exclusive remedy for the Breach of this Article 22, but shall be in addition to all other remedies available at law or in equity. The Parties further acknowledge and agree that the covenants contained herein are necessary for the protection of legitimate business interests and are reasonable in scope. No Party, however, shall be liable for indirect, incidental, or consequential or punitive damages of any nature or kind resulting from or arising in connection with this Article 22.
- 22.1.10 Disclosure to FERC, its Staff, or a State. Notwithstanding anything in this Article 22 to the contrary, and pursuant to 18 C.F.R. section 1b.20, if FERC or its staff, during the course of an investigation or otherwise, requests information from one of the Parties that is otherwise required to be maintained in confidence pursuant to this LGIA, the Party shall provide the requested information to FERC or its staff, within the time provided for in the request for information. In providing the information to FERC or its staff, the Party must, consistent with 18 C.F.R. section 388.112, request that the information be treated as confidential and non-public by FERC and its staff and that the information be withheld from public disclosure. Parties are prohibited from notifying the other Party to this LGIA prior to the release of the Confidential Information to FERC or its staff. The Party shall notify the other Party to the LGIA when it is notified by FERC or

its staff that a request to release Confidential Information has been received by FERC, at which time either of the Parties may respond before such information would be made public, pursuant to 18 C.F.R. section 388.112. Requests from a state regulatory body conducting a confidential investigation shall be treated in a similar manner if consistent with the applicable state rules and regulations.

22.1.11 Subject to the exception in Article 22.1.10, any information that a Party claims is competitively sensitive, commercial or financial information under this LGIA ("Confidential Information") shall not be disclosed by the other Party to any person not employed or retained by the other Party, except to the extent disclosure is (i) required by law; (ii) reasonably deemed by the disclosing Party to be required to be disclosed in connection with a dispute between or among the Parties, or the defense of litigation or dispute; (iii) otherwise permitted by consent of the other Party, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld; or (iv) necessary to fulfill its obligations under this LGIA or as a transmission service provider or a Control Area operator including disclosing the Confidential Information to an RTO or ISO or to a regional or national reliability organization. The Party asserting confidentiality shall notify the other Party in writing of the information it claims is confidential. Prior to any disclosures of the other Party's Confidential Information under this subparagraph, or if any third party or Governmental Authority makes any request or demand for any of the information described in this subparagraph, the disclosing Party agrees to promptly notify the other Party in writing and agrees to assert confidentiality and cooperate with the other Party in seeking to protect the Confidential Information from public disclosure by confidentiality agreement, protective order or other reasonable measures.

Article 23. Environmental Releases

23.1 Each Party shall notify the other Party, first orally and then in writing, of the release of any Hazardous Substances, any asbestos or lead abatement activities, or any type of remediation activities related to the Large Generating Facility or the Interconnection Facilities, each of which may reasonably be expected to affect the other Party. The notifying Party shall: (i) provide the notice as soon as practicable, provided such Party makes a good faith effort to provide the notice no later than twenty-four hours after such Party becomes aware of the occurrence; and (ii) promptly furnish to the other Party copies of any publicly available reports filed with any Governmental Authorities addressing such events.

Article 24. Information Requirements

24.1 Information Acquisition. Transmission Provider and Interconnection Customer shall submit specific information regarding the electrical characteristics of their respective facilities to each other as described below and in accordance with Applicable Reliability Standards.

- 24.2 Information Submission by Transmission Provider. The initial information submission by Transmission Provider shall occur no later than one hundred eighty (180) Calendar Days prior to Trial Operation and shall include Transmission System information necessary to allow Interconnection Customer to select equipment and meet any system protection and stability requirements, unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties. On a monthly basis Transmission Provider shall provide Interconnection Customer a status report on the construction and installation of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades, including, but not limited to, the following information: (1) progress to date; (2) a description of the activities since the last report; (3) a description of the action items for the next period; and (4) the delivery status of equipment ordered.
- 24.3 Updated Information Submission by Interconnection Customer. The updated information submission by Interconnection Customer, including manufacturer information, shall occur no later than one hundred eighty (180) Calendar Days prior to the Trial Operation. Interconnection Customer shall submit a completed copy of the Large Generating Facility data requirements contained in Appendix 1 to the LGIP. It shall also include any additional information provided to Transmission Provider for the Feasibility and Facilities Study. Information in this submission shall be the most current Large Generating Facility design or expected performance data. Information submitted for stability models shall be compatible with Transmission Provider standard models. If there is no compatible model, Interconnection Customer will work with a consultant mutually agreed to by the Parties to develop and supply a standard model and associated information.

If Interconnection Customer's data is materially different from what was originally provided to Transmission Provider pursuant to the Interconnection Study Agreement between Transmission Provider and Interconnection Customer, then Transmission Provider will conduct appropriate studies to determine the impact on Transmission Provider Transmission System based on the actual data submitted pursuant to this Article 24.3. The Interconnection Customer shall not begin Trial Operation until such studies are completed.

24.4 Information Supplementation. Prior to the Operation Date, the Parties shall supplement their information submissions described above in this Article 24 with any and all "as-built" Large Generating Facility information or "as-tested" performance information that differs from the initial submissions or, alternatively, written confirmation that no such differences exist. The Interconnection Customer shall conduct tests on the Large Generating Facility as required by Good Utility Practice such as an open circuit "step voltage" test on the Large Generating Facility to verify proper operation of the Large Generating Facility's automatic voltage regulator.

Unless otherwise agreed, the test conditions shall include: (1) Large Generating Facility at synchronous speed; (2) automatic voltage regulator on and in voltage control mode; and (3) a five percent change in Large Generating Facility terminal voltage initiated by a change in the voltage regulators reference voltage. Interconnection Customer shall provide validated test recordings showing the responses of Large Generating Facility

terminal and field voltages. In the event that direct recordings of these voltages is impractical, recordings of other voltages or currents that mirror the response of the Large Generating Facility's terminal or field voltage are acceptable if information necessary to translate these alternate quantities to actual Large Generating Facility terminal or field voltages is provided. Large Generating Facility testing shall be conducted and results provided to Transmission Provider for each individual generating unit in a station.

Subsequent to the Operation Date, Interconnection Customer shall provide Transmission Provider any information changes due to equipment replacement, repair, or adjustment. Transmission Provider shall provide Interconnection Customer any information changes due to equipment replacement, repair or adjustment in the directly connected substation or any adjacent Transmission Provider-owned substation that may affect Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities equipment ratings, protection or operating requirements. The Parties shall provide such information no later than thirty (30) Calendar Days after the date of the equipment replacement, repair or adjustment.

Article 25. Information Access and Audit Rights

- 25.1 Information Access. Each Party (the "disclosing Party") shall make available to the other Party information that is in the possession of the disclosing Party and is necessary in order for the other Party to: (i) verify the costs incurred by the disclosing Party for which the other Party is responsible under this LGIA; and (ii) carry out its obligations and responsibilities under this LGIA. The Parties shall not use such information for purposes other than those set forth in this Article 25.1 and to enforce their rights under this LGIA.
- 25.2 Reporting of Non-Force Majeure Events. Each Party (the "notifying Party") shall notify the other Party when the notifying Party becomes aware of its inability to comply with the provisions of this LGIA for a reason other than a Force Majeure event. The Parties agree to cooperate with each other and provide necessary information regarding such inability to comply, including the date, duration, reason for the inability to comply, and corrective actions taken or planned to be taken with respect to such inability to comply. Notwithstanding the foregoing, notification, cooperation or information provided under this article shall not entitle the Party receiving such notification to allege a cause for anticipatory breach of this LGIA.
- 25.3 Audit Rights. Subject to the requirements of confidentiality under Article 22 of this LGIA, each Party shall have the right, during normal business hours, and upon prior reasonable notice to the other Party, to audit at its own expense the other Party's accounts and records pertaining to either Party's performance or either Party's satisfaction of obligations under this LGIA. Such audit rights shall include audits of the other Party's costs, calculation of invoiced amounts, Transmission Provider's efforts to allocate responsibility for the provision of reactive support to the Transmission System, Transmission Provider's efforts to allocate responsibility for interruption or reduction of generation on the Transmission System, and each Party's actions in an Emergency Condition. Any audit authorized by this article shall be performed at the offices where

such accounts and records are maintained and shall be limited to those portions of such accounts and records that relate to each Party's performance and satisfaction of obligations under this LGIA. Each Party shall keep such accounts and records for a period equivalent to the audit rights periods described in Article 25.4.

25.4 Audit Rights Periods.

- 25.4.1 Audit Rights Period for Construction-Related Accounts and Records.

 Accounts and records related to the design, engineering, procurement, and construction of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades shall be subject to audit for a period of twenty-four months following Transmission Provider's issuance of a final invoice in accordance with Article 12.2.
- 25.4.2 Audit Rights Period for All Other Accounts and Records. Accounts and records related to either Party's performance or satisfaction of all obligations under this LGIA other than those described in Article 25.4.1 shall be subject to audit as follows: (i) for an audit relating to cost obligations, the applicable audit rights period shall be twenty-four months after the auditing Party's receipt of an invoice giving rise to such cost obligations; and (ii) for an audit relating to all other obligations, the applicable audit rights period shall be twenty-four months after the event for which the audit is sought.
- **25.5** Audit Results. If an audit by a Party determines that an overpayment or an underpayment has occurred, a notice of such overpayment or underpayment shall be given to the other Party together with those records from the audit which support such determination.

Article 26. Subcontractors

- **26.1** General. Nothing in this LGIA shall prevent a Party from utilizing the services of any subcontractor as it deems appropriate to perform its obligations under this LGIA; provided, however, that each Party shall require its subcontractors to comply with all applicable terms and conditions of this LGIA in providing such services and each Party shall remain primarily liable to the other Party for the performance of such subcontractor.
- **Responsibility of Principal.** The creation of any subcontract relationship shall not relieve the hiring Party of any of its obligations under this LGIA. The hiring Party shall be fully responsible to the other Party for the acts or omissions of any subcontractor the hiring Party hires as if no subcontract had been made; provided, however, that in no event shall Transmission Provider be liable for the actions or inactions of Interconnection Customer or its subcontractors with respect to obligations of Interconnection Customer under Article 5 of this LGIA. Any applicable obligation imposed by this LGIA upon the hiring Party shall be equally binding upon, and shall be construed as having application to, any subcontractor of such Party.

26.3 No Limitation by Insurance. The obligations under this Article 26 will not be limited in any way by any limitation of subcontractor's insurance.

Article 27. Disputes

- 27.1 Submission. In the event either Party has a dispute, or asserts a claim, that arises out of or in connection with this LGIA or its performance, such Party (the "disputing Party") shall provide the other Party with written notice of the dispute or claim ("Notice of Dispute"). Such dispute or claim shall be referred to a designated senior representative of each Party for resolution on an informal basis as promptly as practicable after receipt of the Notice of Dispute by the other Party. In the event the designated representatives are unable to resolve the claim or dispute through unassisted or assisted negotiations within thirty (30) Calendar Days of the other Party's receipt of the Notice of Dispute, such claim or dispute may, upon mutual agreement of the Parties, be submitted to arbitration and resolved in accordance with the arbitration procedures set forth below. In the event the Parties do not agree to submit such claim or dispute to arbitration, each Party may exercise whatever rights and remedies it may have in equity or at law consistent with the terms of this LGIA.
- External Arbitration Procedures. Any arbitration initiated under this LGIA shall be 27.2 conducted before a single neutral arbitrator appointed by the Parties. If the Parties fail to agree upon a single arbitrator within ten (10) Calendar Days of the submission of the dispute to arbitration, each Party shall choose one arbitrator who shall sit on a threemember arbitration panel. The two arbitrators so chosen shall within twenty (20) Calendar Days select a third arbitrator to chair the arbitration panel. In either case, the arbitrators shall be knowledgeable in electric utility matters, including electric transmission and bulk power issues, and shall not have any current or past substantial business or financial relationships with any party to the arbitration (except prior arbitration). The arbitrator(s) shall provide each of the Parties an opportunity to be heard and, except as otherwise provided herein, shall conduct the arbitration in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association ("Arbitration Rules") and any applicable FERC regulations or RTO rules; provided, however, in the event of a conflict between the Arbitration Rules and the terms of this Article 27, the terms of this Article 27 shall prevail.
- 27.3 Arbitration Decisions. Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, the arbitrator(s) shall render a decision within ninety (90) Calendar Days of appointment and shall notify the Parties in writing of such decision and the reasons therefor. The arbitrator(s) shall be authorized only to interpret and apply the provisions of this LGIA and shall have no power to modify or change any provision of this Agreement in any manner. The decision of the arbitrator(s) shall be final and binding upon the Parties, and judgment on the award may be entered in any court having jurisdiction. The decision of the arbitrator(s) may be appealed solely on the grounds that the conduct of the arbitrator(s), or the decision itself, violated the standards set forth in the Federal Arbitration Act or the Administrative Dispute Resolution Act. The final decision of the arbitrator must also be filed with FERC

if it affects jurisdictional rates, terms and conditions of service, Interconnection Facilities, or Network Upgrades.

27.4 Costs. Each Party shall be responsible for its own costs incurred during the arbitration process and for the following costs, if applicable: (1) the cost of the arbitrator chosen by the Party to sit on the three member panel and one half of the cost of the third arbitrator chosen; or (2) one half the cost of the single arbitrator jointly chosen by the Parties.

Article 28. Representations, Warranties, and Covenants

- **28.1** General. Each Party makes the following representations, warranties and covenants:
 - 28.1.1 Good Standing. Such Party is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the state in which it is organized, formed, or incorporated, as applicable; that it is qualified to do business in the state or states in which the Large Generating Facility, Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades owned by such Party, as applicable, are located; and that it has the corporate power and authority to own its properties, to carry on its business as now being conducted and to enter into this LGIA and carry out the transactions contemplated hereby and perform and carry out all covenants and obligations on its part to be performed under and pursuant to this LGIA.
 - 28.1.2 Authority. Such Party has the right, power and authority to enter into this LGIA, to become a Party hereto and to perform its obligations hereunder. This LGIA is a legal, valid and binding obligation of such Party, enforceable against such Party in accordance with its terms, except as the enforceability thereof may be limited by applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization or other similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally and by general equitable principles (regardless of whether enforceability is sought in a proceeding in equity or at law).
 - 28.1.3 No Conflict. The execution, delivery and performance of this LGIA does not violate or conflict with the organizational or formation documents, or bylaws or operating agreement, of such Party, or any judgment, license, permit, order, material agreement or instrument applicable to or binding upon such Party or any of its assets.
 - 28.1.4 Consent and Approval. Such Party has sought or obtained, or, in accordance with this LGIA will seek or obtain, each consent, approval, authorization, order, or acceptance by any Governmental Authority in connection with the execution, delivery and performance of this LGIA, and it will provide to any Governmental Authority notice of any actions under this LGIA that are required by Applicable Laws and Regulations.

Article 29. Joint Operating Committee

29.1 Joint Operating Committee. Except in the case of ISOs and RTOs, Transmission Provider shall constitute a Joint Operating Committee to coordinate operating and technical considerations of Interconnection Service. At least six (6) months prior to the expected Initial Synchronization Date, Interconnection Customer and Transmission

Provider shall each appoint one representative and one alternate to the Joint Operating Committee. Each Interconnection Customer shall notify Transmission Provider of its appointment in writing. Such appointments may be changed at any time by similar notice. The Joint Operating Committee shall meet as necessary, but not less than once each calendar year, to carry out the duties set forth herein. The Joint Operating Committee shall hold a meeting at the request of either Party, at a time and place agreed upon by the representatives. The Joint Operating Committee shall perform all of its duties consistent with the provisions of this LGIA. Each Party shall cooperate in providing to the Joint Operating Committee all information required in the performance of the Joint Operating Committee's duties. All decisions and agreements, if any, made by the Joint Operating Committee, shall be evidenced in writing. The duties of the Joint Operating Committee shall include the following:

- 29.1.1 Establish data requirements and operating record requirements.
- 29.1.2 Review the requirements, standards, and procedures for data acquisition equipment, protective equipment, and any other equipment or software.
- 29.1.3 Annually review the one (1) year forecast of maintenance and planned outage schedules of Transmission Provider's and Interconnection Customer's facilities at the Point of Interconnection.
- 29.1.4 Coordinate the scheduling of maintenance and planned outages on the Interconnection Facilities, the Large Generating Facility and other facilities that impact the normal operation of the interconnection of the Large Generating Facility to the Transmission System.
- 29.1.5 Ensure that information is being provided by each Party regarding equipment availability.
- 29.1.6 Perform such other duties as may be conferred upon it by mutual agreement of the Parties.

Article 30. Miscellaneous

- **30.1 Binding Effect.** This LGIA and the rights and obligations hereof, shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the successors and assigns of the Parties hereto.
- **30.2** Conflicts. In the event of a conflict between the body of this LGIA and any attachment, appendices or exhibits hereto, the terms and provisions of the body of this LGIA shall prevail and be deemed the final intent of the Parties.
- 30.3 Rules of Interpretation. This LGIA, unless a clear contrary intention appears, shall be construed and interpreted as follows: (1) the singular number includes the plural number and vice versa; (2) reference to any person includes such person's successors and assigns but, in the case of a Party, only if such successors and assigns are permitted by this LGIA, and reference to a person in a particular capacity excludes such person in any

other capacity or individually; (3) reference to any agreement (including this LGIA), document, instrument or tariff means such agreement, document, instrument, or tariff as amended or modified and in effect from time to time in accordance with the terms thereof and, if applicable, the terms hereof; (4) reference to any Applicable Laws and Regulations means such Applicable Laws and Regulations as amended, modified, codified, or reenacted, in whole or in part, and in effect from time to time, including, if applicable, rules and regulations promulgated thereunder; (5) unless expressly stated otherwise, reference to any Article, Section or Appendix means such Article of this LGIA or such Appendix to this LGIA, or such Section to the LGIP or such Appendix to the LGIP, as the case may be; (6) "hereunder", "hereof", "herein", "hereto" and words of similar import shall be deemed references to this LGIA as a whole and not to any particular Article or other provision hereof or thereof; (7) "including" (and with correlative meaning "include") means including without limiting the generality of any description preceding such term; and (8) relative to the determination of any period of time, "from" means "from and including", "to" means "to but excluding" and "through" means "through and including".

- 30.4 Entire Agreement. This LGIA, including all Appendices and Schedules attached hereto, constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties with reference to the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all prior and contemporaneous understandings or agreements, oral or written, between the Parties with respect to the subject matter of this LGIA. There are no other agreements, representations, warranties, or covenants which constitute any part of the consideration for, or any condition to, either Party's compliance with its obligations under this LGIA.
- 30.5 No Third Party Beneficiaries. This LGIA is not intended to and does not create rights, remedies, or benefits of any character whatsoever in favor of any persons, corporations, associations, or entities other than the Parties, and the obligations herein assumed are solely for the use and benefit of the Parties, their successors in interest and, where permitted, their assigns.
- 30.6 Waiver. The failure of a Party to this LGIA to insist, on any occasion, upon strict performance of any provision of this LGIA will not be considered a waiver of any obligation, right, or duty of, or imposed upon, such Party.
 - Any waiver at any time by either Party of its rights with respect to this LGIA shall not be deemed a continuing waiver or a waiver with respect to any other failure to comply with any other obligation, right, duty of this LGIA. Termination or Default of this LGIA for any reason by Interconnection Customer shall not constitute a waiver of Interconnection Customer's legal rights to obtain an interconnection from Transmission Provider. Any waiver of this LGIA shall, if requested, be provided in writing.
- 30.7 Headings. The descriptive headings of the various Articles of this LGIA have been inserted for convenience of reference only and are of no significance in the interpretation or construction of this LGIA.

- 30.8 Multiple Counterparts. This LGIA may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which is deemed an original but all constitute one and the same instrument.
- **30.9** Amendment. The Parties may by mutual agreement amend this LGIA by a written instrument duly executed by the Parties.
- 30.10 Modification by the Parties. The Parties may by mutual agreement amend the Appendices to this LGIA by a written instrument duly executed by the Parties. Such amendment shall become effective and a part of this LGIA upon satisfaction of all Applicable Laws and Regulations.
- 30.11 Reservation of Rights. Transmission Provider shall have the right to make a unilateral filing with FERC to modify this LGIA with respect to any rates, terms and conditions, charges, classifications of service, rule or regulation under section 205 or any other applicable provision of the Federal Power Act and FERC's rules and regulations thereunder, and Interconnection Customer shall have the right to make a unilateral filing with FERC to modify this LGIA pursuant to section 206 or any other applicable provision of the Federal Power Act and FERC's rules and regulations thereunder; provided that each Party shall have the right to protest any such filing by the other Party and to participate fully in any proceeding before FERC in which such modifications may be considered. Nothing in this LGIA shall limit the rights of the Parties or of FERC under sections 205 or 206 of the Federal Power Act and FERC's rules and regulations thereunder, except to the extent that the Parties otherwise mutually agree as provided herein.
- 30.12 No Partnership. This LGIA shall not be interpreted or construed to create an association, joint venture, agency relationship, or partnership between the Parties or to impose any partnership obligation or partnership liability upon either Party. Neither Party shall have any right, power or authority to enter into any agreement or undertaking for, or act on behalf of, or to act as or be an agent or representative of, or to otherwise bind, the other Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this LGIA in duplicate originals, each of which shall constitute and be an original effective Agreement between the Parties.

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, as Transmission Provider

By: J. Sam Holeman, III

Title: Vice President Transmission System Planning and Operations

Date: November 8, 2017

Signature:

NTE Carolinas II, LLC, as Interconnection Customer

By: Stephanie Clarkson

Title: Vice President

Date: $\frac{11/0}{1}$

Signature

Appendix A to LGIA

Interconnection Facilities, Network Upgrades and Distribution Upgrades

1. Interconnection Facilities:

- (a) Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities:
- The Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities will consist of a 230 kV generator bus line from the high side of the Interconnection Customer owned generator step-up transformer to the Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities.
 - (b) Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities:

The Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities will interconnect the Interconnection Customer's 230 kV generator bus line from the high side of the Interconnection Customer owned generator step-up transformer to the Transmission Provider owned Ernest 230 kV Switching Station via a gang operated air break switch and breaker and a half configuration to the Red and Yellow buses. The breaker and a half configuration is designated as circuit breakers 21 and 11 on the One-Line Diagram in Section 6.

2. Network Upgrades:

(a) Stand Alone Network Upgrades:

None

(b) Other Network Upgrades:

| Other Network Upgrades | Date Required | Estimated Cost |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Modification of 230 kV Ernest Switching Station | October 1, 2019 | \$4,880,003 |
| Upgrade Jacobs 230kV Lines (Belews Creek Switching Station to Earnest Switching Station) (13.71 Miles) with 1158 ACSS/TW 54/7 | July 1, 2021 | \$26,605,789 |
| Upgrade Belews Creek Switching Station 230kV Line Terminal | January 1, 2019 | \$374,445 |
| Add 2% Reactors on Sadler 230kV Lines @ Sadler Tie | February 1, 2021 | \$27,057,125 |
| Add 230/100kV Transformer @ North Greensboro Tie | January 1, 2019 | \$0 |
| 100kV OD Breakers @ North Greensboro Tie (8 Breakers) | January 1, 2021 | \$0 |
| GSU Neutral Reactors @ Belews Creek Steam Station | January 1, 2020 | \$0 |
| TOTAL | | \$58,917,362 |

3. Distribution Upgrades:

There are no Distribution Upgrades.

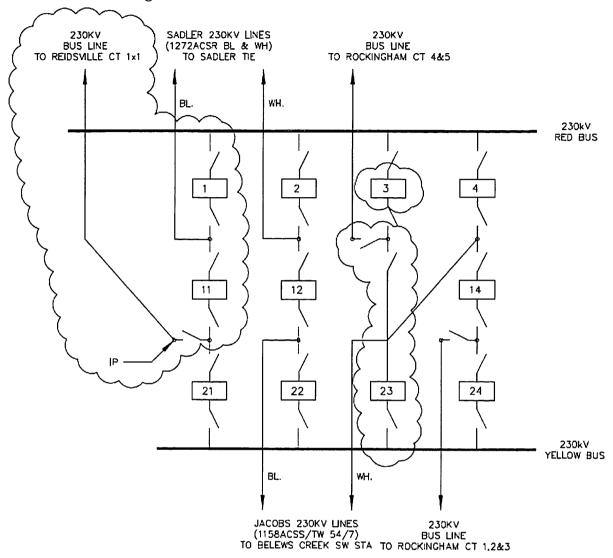
4. Point of Interconnection:

The Point of Interconnection is located where the Interconnection Customer's 230 kV bus line attaches on the line termination structure entering Transmission Provider's Ernest 230 kV Switchyard. The Point of Interconnection is labeled as "IP" (Interconnection Point) on the One Line Diagram in section 6.

5. Point of Change in Ownership:

The Point of Change in Ownership is the same as the Point of Interconnection.

6. One-Line Diagram:



ERNEST SWITCHING STATION FUTURE CONFIGURATION

Appendix B to LGIA

Milestones

| Milestone | Responsible Party | Due Date |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Add 230/100kV Transformer @ North Greensboro Tie | Transmission Provider | 1/1/2019 |
| Upgrade Belews Creek Switching Station 230kV Line Terminal | Transmission Provider | 1/1/2019 |
| Modification of 230 kV Ernest Switching Station | Transmission Provider | 10/1/2019 |
| In-Service Date | Interconnection Customer | 10/7/ 2019 |
| GSU Neutral Reactors @ Belews Creek Steam Station | Transmission Provider | 1/1/2020 |
| Synchronization Date | Interconnection Customer | 2/3/ 2020 |
| 100kV OD Breakers @ North Greensboro Tie (8 Breakers) | Transmission Provider | 6/1/2020 |
| Add 2% Reactors on Sadler 230kV Lines @Sadler Tie | Transmission Provider | 2/1/2021 |
| 100kV OD Breakers @ Sadler tie (4 Breakers) | Transmission Provider | 2/1/2021 |
| Add 230/100kV Transformer @ Sadler Tie | Transmission Provider | 2/1/2021 |
| Commercial Operation Date | Interconnection Customer | 4/1/2021 |
| Upgrade Jacobs 230kV Lines (Belews Creek Switching Station to Ernest Switching Station) (13.71 Miles) with 1158 ACSS/TW | Transmission Provider | 7/1/2021 |

Note: Due Date assumes November 1, 2017 LGIA execution date.

Note: Interconnection Customer chooses the Standard Option in Section 5.1 of this LGIA.

Payment Schedule

| Payment Date | Associated Activity | Cost |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------|
| November 2, 2017 | Signed LGIA | \$500,000 |
| May 1, 2018 | Conceptual Design Complete | \$1,100,000 |
| October 1, 2018 | DEC Project Commit/Material Procurement | \$8,500,000 |
| March 1, 2019 | Engineering Complete | \$17,750,000 |
| October 1, 2019 | Transmission Back-feed Available | \$31,067,363 |

Appendix C to LGIA

Interconnection Details

Set forth below are the Interconnection Details as referenced in Section 9.4 of this LGIA.

Generating Facility

The Interconnection Customer's Reidsville Combined Cycle Facility is a 540 MW generating facility to be located in Rockingham County, North Carolina. The combined cycle will consist of one combustion turbine generator and one steam turbine generator. The combustion and steam turbine generators will Interconnect via a 230 kV bus line to a single Point of Interconnection in the Ernest 230 kV Switching Station as described in Section 4 of Appendix A of this LGIA.

Appendix D to LGIA

Security Arrangements Details

Infrastructure security of Transmission System equipment and operations and control hardware and software is essential to ensure day-to-day Transmission System reliability and operational security. FERC will expect all Transmission Providers, market participants, and Interconnection Customers interconnected to the Transmission System to comply with the recommendations offered by the President's Critical Infrastructure Protection Board and, eventually, best practice recommendations from the electric reliability authority. All public utilities will be expected to meet basic standards for system infrastructure and operational security, including physical, operational, and cyber-security practices.

Appendix E to LGIA

Commercial Operation Date

This Appendix E is a part of the LGIA between Transmission Provider and Interconnection Customer.

| [Date] | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| [Transmission Provid | ler Address] |
| Re: | _ Large Generating Facility |
| Dear | _: |
| etter confirms that [Inter- | ection Customer] has completed Trial Operation of Unit Noconnection Customer] commenced Commercial Operation of Uning Facility, effective as of [Date plus one day]. |
| Thank you. | |
| [Signature] | |
| [Interconnection Cust | tomer Representative |

Appendix F to LGIA

Addresses for Delivery of Notices and Billings

Notices:

Transmission Provider:

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC 526 South Church Street EC02B

Charlotte, NC 28202 Attn: Scott Lewter

Lead System Ops Analyst

Phone 704 382-9077

E-Mail scott.lewter@duke-energy.com

With a copy to:

Duke Energy Corporation 550 South Tryon Street Charlotte, NC 28202 Attn: General Counsel

<u>Interconnection Customer:</u>

NTE Carolinas II, LLC 24 Cathedral Place Suite 300

Saint Augustine, FL 32084

Attn: Mike Green Vice President

Phone: 904 687-1857

E-Mail: <u>mgreen@nteenergy.com</u>

With a copy to:

NTE Carolinas II, LLC 24 Cathedral Place Suite 300 Saint Augustine, FL 32084 Phone: 904 687-1857

E-Mail: rec.notices@nteenergy.com

Billings and Payments:

Transmission Provider:

Inquiries:

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC 526 South Church Street DEC43A

Charlotte, NC 28202 Attn: Steve Collis

Manager Accounting

Phone 704 382-0895

E-Mail Steve.Collis@duke-energy.com

Wiring Instructions:

Bank: PNC Bank ABA # 041000124 Account 40-0690-7111 Account Name Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC

Interconnection Customer:

NTE Carolinas II, LLC 24 Cathedral Place Suite 300 Saint Augustine, FL 32084

Attn: Accounting Phone: 904-687-1857

Email: rec.notices@nteenergy.com

Wiring Instructions:

Bank: Bank of America N.A. ABA # 026009593 Account 4451198936 Account Name NTE Carolinas II, LLC

Appendix G to LGIA

Interconnection Requirements For A Wind Generating Plant

Appendix G sets forth requirements and provisions specific to a wind generating plant.

All other requirements of this LGIA continue to apply to wind generating plant interconnections.

A. <u>Technical Standards Applicable to a Wind Generating Plant</u>

i. Low Voltage Ride-Through (LVRT) Capability

A wind generating plant shall be able to remain online during voltage disturbances up to the time periods and associated voltage levels set forth in the standard below. The LVRT standard provides for a transition period standard and a post-transition period standard.

Transition Period LVRT Standard

The transition period standard applies to wind generating plants subject to FERC Order 661 that have either: (i) interconnection agreements signed and filed with the Commission, filed with the Commission in unexecuted form, or filed with the Commission as non-conforming agreements between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2006, with a scheduled in-service date no later than December 31, 2007, or (ii) wind generating turbines subject to a wind turbine procurement contract executed prior to December 31, 2005, for delivery through 2007.

1. Wind generating plants are required to remain in-service during three-phase faults with normal clearing (which is a time period of approximately 4 - 9 cycles) and single line to ground faults with delayed clearing, and subsequent post-fault voltage recovery to prefault voltage unless clearing the fault effectively disconnects the generator from the system. The clearing time requirement for a three-phase fault will be specific to the wind generating plant substation location, as determined by and documented by the transmission provider. The maximum clearing time the wind generating plant shall be

required to withstand for a three-phase fault shall be 9 cycles at a voltage as low as 0.15 p.u., as measured at the high side of the wind generating plant step-up transformer (i.e., the transformer that steps the voltage up to the transmission interconnection voltage or "GSU"), after which, if the fault remains following the location-specific normal clearing time for three-phase faults, the wind generating plant may disconnect from the transmission system.

- 2. This requirement does not apply to faults that would occur between the wind generator terminals and the high side of the GSU or to faults that would result in a voltage lower than 0.15 per unit on the high side of the GSU serving the facility.
- 3. Wind generating plants may be tripped after the fault period if this action is intended as part of a special protection system.
- 4. Wind generating plants may meet the LVRT requirements of this standard by the performance of the generators or by installing additional equipment (e.g., Static VAr Compensator, etc.) within the wind generating plant or by a combination of generator performance and additional equipment.
- 5. Existing individual generator units that are, or have been, interconnected to the network at the same location at the effective date of the Appendix G LVRT Standard are exempt from meeting the Appendix G LVRT Standard for the remaining life of the existing generation equipment. Existing individual generator units that are replaced are required to meet the Appendix G LVRT Standard.

Post-transition Period LVRT Standard

All wind generating plants subject to FERC Order No. 661 and not covered by the transition period described above must meet the following requirements:

- 1. Wind generating plants are required to remain in-service during three-phase faults with normal clearing (which is a time period of approximately 4 9 cycles) and single line to ground faults with delayed clearing, and subsequent post-fault voltage recovery to prefault voltage unless clearing the fault effectively disconnects the generator from the system. The clearing time requirement for a three-phase fault will be specific to the wind generating plant substation location, as determined by and documented by the transmission provider. The maximum clearing time the wind generating plant shall be required to withstand for a three-phase fault shall be 9 cycles after which, if the fault remains following the location-specific normal clearing time for three-phase faults, the wind generating plant may disconnect from the transmission system. A wind generating plant shall remain interconnected during such a fault on the transmission system for a voltage level as low as zero volts, as measured at the high voltage side of the wind GSU.
- 2. This requirement does not apply to faults that would occur between the wind generator terminals and the high side of the GSU.
- 3. Wind generating plants may be tripped after the fault period if this action is intended as part of a special protection system.
- 4. Wind generating plants may meet the LVRT requirements of this standard by the performance of the generators or by installing additional equipment (e.g., Static VAr Compensator) within the wind generating plant or by a combination of generator performance and additional equipment.
- 5. Existing individual generator units that are, or have been, interconnected to the network at the same location at the effective date of the Appendix G LVRT Standard are exempt from meeting the Appendix G LVRT Standard for the remaining life of the existing

generation equipment. Existing individual generator units that are replaced are required to meet the Appendix G LVRT Standard.

ii. Power Factor Design Criteria (Reactive Power)

The following reactive power requirements apply only to a newly interconnecting wind generating plant that has executed a Facilities Study Agreement as of the effective date of the Final Rule establishing the reactive power requirements for non-synchronous generators in section 9.6.1 of this LGIA (Order No. 827). A wind generating plant to which this provision applies shall maintain a power factor within the range of 0.95 leading to 0.95 lagging, measured at the Point of Interconnection as defined in this LGIA, if the Transmission Provider's System Impact Study shows that such a requirement is necessary to ensure safety or reliability. The power factor range standard can be met by using, for example, power electronics designed to supply this level of reactive capability (taking into account any limitations due to voltage level, real power output, etc.) or fixed and switched capacitors if agreed to by the Transmission Provider, or a combination of the two. The Interconnection Customer shall not disable power factor equipment while the wind plant is in operation. Wind plants shall also be able to provide sufficient dynamic voltage support in lieu of the power system stabilizer and automatic voltage regulation at the generator excitation system if the System Impact Study shows this to be required for system safety or reliability.

iii. Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Capability

The wind plant shall provide SCADA capability to transmit data and receive instructions from the Transmission Provider to protect system reliability. The Transmission Provider and the wind plant Interconnection Customer shall determine what SCADA information is essential for the proposed wind plant, taking into account the size of the plant and its characteristics, location,

| and increased in an electricity of conception recovery advances and two manifestion arratem reliability |
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| and importance in maintaining generation resource adequacy and transmission system reliability in its area. |
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EXHIBIT 3

OATT SERVICE AGREEMENT NO. 491 UNDER TARIFF VOLUME NO. 4

AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE
LARGE GENERATOR INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN

DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC (TRANSMISSION PROVIDER)
AND
NTE CAROLINAS II, LLC (INTERCONNECTION CUSTOMER)

AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE STANDARD LARGE GENERATOR INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

This AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE STANDARD LARGE GENERATOR INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT ("Amendment") is made and entered into this 10 day of October 2018, by and between NTE Carolinas II, LLC, a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware ("Interconnection Customer" with a Large Generating Facility), and Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of North Carolina ("Transmission Provider and/or Transmission Owner"). Interconnection Customer and Transmission Provider each may be referred to as a "Party" or collectively as the "Parties."

Recitals

WHEREAS, Transmission Provider operates the Transmission System; and

WHEREAS, Interconnection Customer intends to own, lease and/or control and operate the Generating Facility identified as a Large Generating Facility in Appendix C to the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement between Interconnection Customer and Transmission Provider dated as of November 8, 2017 for the purpose of interconnecting the Large Generating Facility with the Transmission System ("LGIA"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 30.10 of the LGIA, Interconnection Customer and Transmission Provider also desire to amend the appendices to the LGIA.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of and subject to the mutual covenants contained herein, it is agreed:

- 1. Appendix B of the LGIA is deleted and replaced with the following revised Appendix B.
- 2. Except as herein above modified, all terms and conditions of the LGIA shall remain in full force and effect.

[Signature page follows.]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Amendment No. 1 to the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement in duplicate originals, each of which shall constitute and be an original effective agreement between the Parties.

DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, as Transmission Provider

| Ву: | J. Sam Holeman III |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Title: | Vice President, Transmission System Planning and Operations |
| Date: | 10/10/18 |
| Signat | rure: 4 Se Holiani |
| | |

NTE CAROLINAS II, LLC, as Interconnection Customer

| By: | Stephanie Clarkson |
|--------|--------------------|
| Title: | Vice President |
| Dater | 10/8/18 |
| Signat | ure: |

Appendix B to LGIA

Milestones

| Milestone | Responsible Party | Due Date |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Add 230/100kV Transformer @ North Greensboro Tie | Transmission Provider | 3/31/2019 |
| Upgrade Belews Creek Switching Station 230kV Line Terminal | Transmission Provider | 4/1/2019 |
| Modification of 230 kV Ernest Switching Station | Transmission Provider | 1/1/2020 |
| In-Service Date | Interconnection Customer | January 7, 2020 |
| GSU Neutral Reactors @ Belews Creek Steam Station | Transmission Provider | 3/31/2020 |
| Synchronization Date | Interconnection Customer | May 3, 2020 |
| 100kV OD Breakers @ North Greensboro Tie (8 Breakers) | Transmission Provider | 9/1/2020 |
| Add 2% Reactors on Sadler 230kV Lines @Sadler Tie | Transmission Provider | 5/1/2021 |
| 100kV OD Breakers @ Sadler tie (4 Breakers) | Transmission Provider | 5/1/2021 |
| Add 230/100kV Transformer @ Sadler Tie | Transmission Provider | 5/1/2021 |
| Commercial Operation Date | Interconnection Customer | July 1, 2021 |
| Upgrade Jacobs 230kV Lines (Belews Creek Switching Station to Ernest Switching Station) (13.71 Miles) with 1158 ACSS/TW | Transmission Provider | 7/1/2021 |

Note: Due Date assumes November 1, 2017 LGIA execution date.

Payment Schedule

| Payment Date | Associated Activity | Cost |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------|
| November 1, 2017 | Signed LGIA | \$500,000 |
| May 1, 2018 | Conceptual Design Complete | \$1,100,000 |
| January 2, 2019 | DEC Project Commit/Material Procurement | \$8,500,000 |
| June 1, 2019 | Engineering Complete | \$17,750,000 |
| January 2, 2020 | Transmission Backfeed Available | \$31,067,363 |

EXHIBIT 4

OATT SERVICE AGREEMENT NO. 491 UNDER TARIFF VOLUME NO. 4

AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE

LARGE GENERATOR INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC (TRANSMISSION PROVIDER)

AND

NTE CAROLINAS II, LLC (INTERCONNECTION CUSTOMER)

AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE STANDARD LARGE GENERATOR INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

This AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE STANDARD LARGE GENERATOR INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT ("Amendment") is made and entered into this 14 day of February 2019, by and between NTE Carolinas II, LLC, a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware ("Interconnection Customer" with a Large Generating Facility), and Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of North Carolina ("Transmission Provider and/or Transmission Owner"). Interconnection Customer and Transmission Provider each may be referred to as a "Party" or collectively as the "Parties."

Recitals

WHEREAS, Transmission Provider operates the Transmission System; and

WHEREAS, Interconnection Customer intends to own, lease and/or control and operate the Generating Facility identified as a Large Generating Facility in Appendix C to the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement between Interconnection Customer and Transmission Provider dated as of November 8, 2017 for the purpose of interconnecting the Large Generating Facility with the Transmission System ("LGIA"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 30.10 of the LGIA, Interconnection Customer and Transmission Provider also desire to amend the appendices to the LGIA.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of and subject to the mutual covenants contained herein, it is agreed:

- 1. Appendix B of the LGIA is deleted and replaced with the following revised Appendix B.
- 2. Except as herein above modified, all terms and conditions of the LGIA shall remain in full force and effect.

[Signature page follows.]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Amendment No. 2 to the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement in duplicate originals, each of which shall constitute and be an original effective agreement between the Parties.

DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, as Transmission Provider

| Ву: | J. Sam Holeman III |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Title: | Vice President, Transmission System Planning and Operations |
| Date: Signat | 2)14/2019 ure: Aut 1 |
| NTE / | CADOLINAS II I I C as International C C 1 |

NTE CAROLINAS II, LLC, as Interconnection Customer

By: Stephanie Clarkson

Title: Vice President

Date: February 14, 2019

Signature:

Appendix B to LGIA

Milestones

| Milestone | Responsible Party | Due Date |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Add 230/100kV Transformer @ North Greensboro Tie | Transmission Provider | 9/1/2019 |
| GSU Neutral Reactors @ Belews Creek Steam Station | Transmission Provider | 3/31/2020 |
| Upgrade Belews Creek Switching Station 230kV Line Terminal | Transmission Provider | 4/1/2020 |
| 100kV OD Breakers @ North Greensboro Tie (8 Breakers) | Transmission Provider | 9/1/2020 |
| Modification of 230 kV Ernest Switching Station | Transmission Provider | 1/1/2021 |
| In-Service Date | Interconnection Customer | January 7, 2021 |
| Synchronization Date | Interconnection Customer | May 3, 2021 |
| Add 2% Reactors on Sadler 230kV Lines @Sadler Tie | Transmission Provider | 5/1/2022 |
| 100kV OD Breakers @ Sadler tie (4 Breakers) | Transmission Provider | 5/1/2022 |
| Add 230/100kV Transformer @ Sadler Tie | Transmission Provider | 5/1/2022 |
| Upgrade Jacobs 230kV Lines (Belews Creek Switching Station to Ernest Switching Station) (13.71 Miles) with 1158 ACSS/TW | Transmission Provider | 7/1/2022 |
| Commercial Operation Date | Interconnection Customer | July 1, 2022 |

Note: Due Date assumes November 1, 2017 LGIA execution date.

Payment Schedule

| Payment Date | Associated Activity | Cost |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| November 1, 2017 | Signed LGIA | \$500,000 |
| May 1, 2018 | Conceptual Design Complete | \$1,100,000 |
| March 1, 2019 | DEC Project Commit/Material Procurement | \$2,500,000 |
| May 1, 2019 | DEC Project Commit/Material Procurement | \$4,500,000 |
| July 1, 2019 | Below Grade Construction & Major Equipment | \$23,700,000 |
| January 2, 2020 | Remaining Equipment & Complete Ernest Construction | \$26,617,363 |